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TORONTO'S CAMPAIGN

PROPERTY QUALIFICATIONS NO DETERRENT TO S. L. P.—MAVES FOR MAYOR.

Toronto, Ont., Dec. 25.—I herewith forward a copy of our manifesto pertaining to the municipal elections in Toronto. As will be seen, the working class is disfranchised in this city to the extent of a $1,000 property qualification. Nevertheless, we placed a candidate up for nomination in the person of Comrade G. A. Maves. Comrade Maves ripped the capitalist politicians, fakirs and bogus Socialists fore and aft. The result is the S. L. P. has received more free advertising than ever before in the history of the Movement in Toronto.

The bogus "Socialists," known as "The Canadian 'Socialist' party," was snowed under and were never heard of, not having the grit to put up a candidate for the Mayoralty in the face of a so-called "popular Mayor" of the capitalist class. Living on votes and knowing that the proportion of votes they would receive would be infinitesimal, they dared not face the issue.

On the contrary, the S. L. P. is asking the workers to write G. A. Maves' name on the ballot, and thus vote for Socialism, in spite of the capitalist class and their laws.

The pure and simple unions have nominated different fakirs for aldermen in different wards, and Mayor Urquhart, who is a capitalist lawyer, is their candidate for the Mayoralty. That is what they call the intelligent use of the ballot. (God save the mark!)

But the S. L. P. is on the march. It is not deterred by qualification, or other handicaps, and is going to fight this fight to a finish.

Yours for the S. L. P.,
F. Martin, Organizer,
Toronto, Ont.

MANIFESTO.

Vote for
G. A. MAVES
For
MAYOR!

Election Day, January 1, 1904.

Manifesto of the
SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY
To the
Wage-Workers of Toronto.

For the fourth time, the Socialist Labor Party presents a candidate for the Mayoralty; this time in the person of G. A. Maves. The same principles which have been enunciated during the three previous elections are still unflinchingly adhered to, namely, "The abolition of the private ownership of all the means of production and distribution and the substitution of common ownership of the same."

Fellow wage-workers, the capitalist press has been telling us for a long time that we are enjoying a period of unprecedented prosperity. Let us consider briefly how that prosperity has affected us. To the majority of us it has meant hard work and long hours, many of us sacrificing our health by slaving in unsanitary, disease-breeding factories. Thousands have been killed and injured in factories, mills, mines and railroads, all to satisfy the greed for wealth of an idle capitalist class. It is true that our wages in most cases have been increased, but, accord to Dun's Review, wages have only increased from 10 to 15 per cent., while the cost of living has increased from 30 to 33 per cent., so that on the whole our standard of living is lower than before this wonderful prosperity began. Wherein, therefore, has this prosperity benefited us? How much better off are we? What have we got to show for it?

But, notwithstanding the fact that our standard of living has declined about 15 per cent., there is prosperity! But for whom? The capitalists have been taking extended trips to seaside resorts and foreign countries. We have read about them disporting themselves at wine suppers, golf links and racetracks; enjoying themselves in steam yachts, automobile drives, etc. Undoubtedly there is prosperity, but the above facts plainly show who enjoy that prosperity!

Fellow-workers, when we consider the prosperity which our masters enjoy, and contrast it with the misery we suffer, the question naturally arises, "Whence comes this contradiction?" But we only see the enormity of this contradiction when we realize that labor creates all wealth, yet possesses only an infinitesimal small portion of that wealth; while, on the other hand, an idle parasitic class, creating no wealth, possesses nearly all of it. The cause of this giant contradiction lies in the fact that the land on, and the tools with, which wealth is created, are private property. History teaches us that in every social system the class that owned the means of production was the ruling class and all others were slaves to that class.

Fellow wage-workers, the Socialist Labor Party is a political organization of the wage-working class, composed of wage-workers; a body of men who, by a careful study of social conditions, have learned that it is useless for the workers to any longer chase after shadows in the shape of reforms; a body of men who realize that it is capitalism itself which is the cause of poverty and degradation of the workers, and hence capitalism must be overthrown and wage-slavery abolished before we can better our condition.

It is the firm determination of the Socialist Labor Party to keep hammering away until every intelligent worker in this broad land realizes that his interests are securely bound up with the interests of every other member of his class; till every worker realizes that he must stand shoulder to shoulder with his comrades to fight the common enemy, "the capitalist class."

Fellow-workers, let us cease bickering and snarling among ourselves; let us cease begging favors from capitalist politicians! Let us understand once and for all that in no single instance in the history of the world has the ruling class given up its stolen plunder of its own accord. Let us realize that this is a battle, and take for our motto, "He who will be free, must himself strike the blow!"

As before stated, the Socialist Labor Party has nominated G. A. Maves as its candidate for Mayor; but in order to prevent the working class from having a candidate of its own, the capitalist class has raised barriers in the shape of property qualifications, with the result that the Socialist Labor Party candidate's name will not be printed on the ballot paper. Nevertheless, fellow-workers, you can if you wish vote for the candidate of your choice. By writing the name G. A. Maves on the ballot you will, to all intents and purposes, be voting for Socialism, and at the same time protesting against the obnoxious system under which we live, and that, in spite of the capitalist class and its laws. You may object by saying the ballot is spoiled, but it will be worse than spoiled if you vote for any other candidate. Besides, who says it is spoiled? The capitalist class says so, and by controlling the law, they have the power to throw the ballot out; but we have given them that power by electing them to office, and we have to suffer in consequence. However, that ballot is not spoiled in our eyes, and in the eyes of the comrades who stand with us. Let us vote, fellow-workers, and enter our protest against a labor-fleecing class which despises us.

The idea has become prevalent in the minds of certain workingmen that the Socialist Labor Party is opposed to trades unions; but such is not the case. What the Socialist Labor Party does claim is that, owing to the development of capitalism, the strike and boycott (hitherto used exclusively) have become obsolete weapons, and consequently are useless as a means for bettering the condition of the wage-working class. As, for instance, the reduction of wages is going on all over the United States, at the same time that thousands of workers are being thrown out on the street to increase the large army of unemployed, and this despite the fact that labor is organized as never before. Now, the Socialist Labor Party favors a form of trades union similar to that which has been organized in the United States, known as the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance, the principles of which lay special stress on the intelligent use of the ballot, aiming by such action at the complete overthrow of the present social system.

It may be argued that the pure and simple trades unions are using the ballot, but the nomination of such men as Mayor Urquhart is simply playing with the social question. Consider the ridiculous position you place yourself in by voting into power a capitalist lawyer! —a man whose first official act after election last year was to confer with the Minister of Militia, with a view to enlarging the armories, so that the strike breaking organization (the militia) might more effectively drill itself into a condition to deal out lead to the workers whenever they become troublesome. You complain of the many injunctions, fines, arrests, etc., and yet your Trades Council has nominated men who stand for the perpetuation of a system under which you can expect nothing else. Consider how you stultify yourselves by lauding to the skies a man like E. F. Clarke, who stated in Parliament that the militia, being composed largely of union men, should not be called out in case of strikes, but that the regular troops should be utilized.

Fellow-workers, to-day we are practically disfranchised. True, under certain conditions we have a vote; but of what use is our vote to us if we cannot use it in electing members of our own class into Parliament or Council? Property qualification laws have been enacted to prevent propertiless wage-workers from becoming candidates for municipal offices. Money deposits are required from those becoming candidates for Parliament, which prevent wage-workers from entering Parliament. The wage-workers as a class do not own property; therefore, they cannot qualify for municipal offices.

Property qualification or money deposit laws do not dishearten the workers of the Socialist Labor Party in their determined purpose. Collective ownership of the means of production and distribution can be achieved in spite of those laws. We can win for ourselves the full result of our labor in spite of capitalist ballot restrictions. No laws can stand before the will of a determined and intelligent majority of the wage-workers. Our class is strong enough, and may soon be intelligent enough, to hold elections of its own and disqualify the capitalist class if that becomes necessary. Meanwhile, we call on all our fellow wage-workers who have a vote, to demonstrate their support of working-class principles by writing the name of G. A. Maves on the ballot paper.

You have nothing to gain by voting for Urquhart or any other candidate who supports capitalism; you have everything to gain by assisting us in our efforts to build up a political organization of the wage-workers. Socialism can only be established by organization. We fight for votes only as a means to develop that organization. By doing so, we learn who favor us and who oppose us, who are our friends and who our enemies, who will prove true and who play false. By writing the name of G. A. Maves on the ballot you help to build up that organization as effectively as if the name were printed on the ballot.

Fellow-workers, arise! Shake off your lethargy! With steady effort work to break the chains that bind you!

The workers can expect no help from the capitalists or their allies. They must set themselves free. Then will there be an end to slavery, and they will emerge triumphant from the fray. In the words of the immortal Marx:

"Workingmen of all countries, unite!
You have nothing to lose but your chains;
You have a world to gain!"

Meetings of the Socialist Labor Party are held every Sunday evening at 7.30 in Woolsley Hall, northeast corner Gerrard and Yonge streets.

TRADE UNION POLICY OF THE S. L. P.

Further Evidence Proving It Correct—"Mother" Jones and Her Dishonest Tactics—The Failure of "Boring From Within," as Illustrated by the Western Federation of Miners.

As the party's trades-union policy is that which is most frequently under discussion, and as the result of the Boston convention of the A. F. of L. is now fresh in the minds of the workers of the country, I would like to make a few remarks on the subject, and also contribute a little evidence to the mass already accumulated in support of the party's policy.

A few weeks ago Mrs., better known as "Mother" Jones, came to Fremont County to deliver speeches to the coal miners who are on strike. She appeared as an organizer of the U. M. W. of A., and not a few were surprised on hearing the lady deliver herself of unmistakable Socialist arguments, and equally unmistakable hostile criticisms of the men who try to harmonize labor and capital. Stranger yet, to the uninitiated, sentiments which, in the mouth of our organizer, Comrade Veal, had been rancorously condemned by members of the U. M. W. of A., even when uttered by the lady, were vociferously cheered. She was especially bitter in her references to the Civic Federation and its pretensions, and, as John Mitchell is one of the pillars of that orgainzation, as he is "not against capital," it is clear that Mrs. Jones was hitting him among others.

Why does he tolerate this? Is it a manifest absurdity to say that he is ignorant of what is going on? That is impossible. Then why does he stand it?

Before proceeding I would like to say that there is one feature conspicuous in Comrade Veal and other organizers of the S. L. P. that is entirely missing in Mrs. Jones, and it is the feature that distinguishes the S. L. P. from the S. P. and it's "borers from within," and that is straightforwardness; the virtue of being candid. When Comrade Veal meant John Mitchell he said John Mitchell. Mrs. Jones talked all around him and never dared mention his name. So much for her honesty.

To return to our muttons. Why does Mitchell tolerate Mrs. Jones, and why does she, claiming to be a Socialist, act as organizer for an organization that cannot, by any effort of the imagination, be called Socialist, and which, upon Mrs Jones own showing, is officered by men who are upholders of capitalism?

This, to my notion, is the explanation: Mitchell is anxious to see the organization of which he is the head in control of every mineworker in the country, and, as Mrs. Jones is useful in securing recruits, he stops his ears to her clatter now. He is using her and she doesn't know it. When he thinks that she has outlived her usefulness, and is in process of becoming a nuisance to him and his capitalist friends, she will land on the outside.

And Mrs. Jones, what of her? She is the "borer from within." She expects things to come to such a pass as to make the "capturing of the organization for Socialism" a thing easy of accomplishment. She expects, at a certain stage of the game, to throw Mr. Mitchell overboard, as he will certainly throw her, The following conversation between Mrs. Jones and a miner is instructive.

"Have you ever attended a national convention of the U. M. W. of A.?"

"Why, yes," was the lady's reply.

"Do you talk there as you do to us?"

"I should say not. What would be the use? It would simply mean that my connection with the union would come to an end," and upon being asked what she thought of the Mine Workers' Journal she characterized it as a "vile sheet," and said that she had never taken a subscription for it. Proceeding with the conversation she outlined her plan of campaign, which was simply to stay with the organization, talk a sweet nothingness inside the charmed circle, a vague Socialism to the rank and file, and, finally, to "capture it for Socialism."

"But why not come out with the clear-cut doctrine?" she was asked.

"What is the use?" she replied. "The men are not able to grasp it. They will follow their leaders and stay with the organization; so how much simpler is my plan!" Flattering, is it not, to the intellect of they whom she would lead?

The manner in which Gompers handled the "borers from within" at Boston is a forecast of what will happen to Mrs. Jones; but let us suppose, for the sake of illustration, that the time has arrived in which she and Mitchell are fighting for the control of the U. M. W. of A. He could, and undoubtedly would, turn to her and say, "So you believe that we are wrong; that I am a fakir; that the basis of our union is rotten?" and she would be forced to say that he was right in his estimate. The answer would come like a flash, "So you, who hope to lead these men, confess to having preached what you knew to be wrong in consideration of receiving a salary from a man whom you underhandedly characterized as a fakir, and worked to build up an organization the principles of which are, in letter and in spirit, diametrically opposed to that which you believe to be right. Where is your honesty, and where your guarantee that you cannot be bought in the future as you were in the past?" And before such logic her pretensions would disappear like "dust that drives, like straws that blow."

What must be thought of a person who, as occasion demands, puts on the mask of pure and simple trades-unionism; and then, at another season, dons that of Socialism, all the while betraying, to the class-conscious workingman, features in which are neither intellectual nor moral fibre, and which carry nothing but forebodings of woe for the unfortunates who may be induced to follow such leadership? What a compliment to the workers in saying that they are incapable of understanding the principles of Socialism, and are to be taken over with the captured organization as if they were a job lot of clothing store dummies. No wonder that the S. L. P. arouses the enmity of such people. They have in mind the workers as a flock of sheep; we, a party of men.

How many times is the fallacy of "capturing" this or that organization to be exploded? Last year, with the endorsement of the A. L. U., the W. F. of M., and the S. F. of L., the "Socialist" party polled nearly 8,000 straight votes in Colorado. This year, with the class-struggle at fever heat, their vote drops to less than 2,500, and, strangest of all, the leaders of the W. F. of M. are out with a "statement"—a copy of which I enclose—in which they attack, not capitalism, but, strange to say, the Repubiican party. Not a word as to the class-struggle; but a campaign document which might have eminated from an office in the pay of the Democratic party. It shows that the Socialism of these men is not even skin deep. And these, men who drop their arms and seek shelter at the first fire are to lead the workers to the co-operative commonwealth.

Such is the fruit of "boring from within;" of "capturing an organization for Socialism." I would suggest that our broad-minded brothers go ahead and do their capturing all over again.

In conclusion I would say that if the emancipation of the workers were a little thing we need not be so particular; but, as it is the greatest task to which the hand and mind have been set since time began, we should be criminal did we stand back and refrain from criticism on those who would lead, but who possess neither common honesty nor common sense. Even the "Fat Jack," who presides over the destinies of the A. F. of L., was forced to admit that the S. L. P. is consistent. It is more than that—it is right. Our destructive work upon that which is false and misleading, and our constructive work, based upon principles along the lines of which the worker must proceed or perish, show that we back up our protestations with our practices. And that is more than can be said for any "borer from within" in the length and breadth of America.

H. J. Brimble.

Florence, Colo., Dec. 21, 1903.

[Enclosure.]

MINERS' STATEMENT
OF THE SITUATION

Executive Board of Western Federation Denounces Declaration of Martial Law and Pledges Coal Miners Support.

An address has been issued by the executive board of the Western Federation of Miners as follows:

"Denver, Colo., Dec. 5, 1903.

"To the Officers and Members of Organized Labor:

"Greeting—We have reviewed the industrial situation in Colorado. We realize that the great conflict that is now being waged against the Western Federation of Miners in this state is a battle to the finish. The Mine Owners' Association, backed by the financial strength of the American Smelting and Refining Company, supported by the groveling sympathy of commercial interests that have resolved themselves into Citizens' Alliances, have openly declared that the organization which the miners of the West have built upon the bedrock of justice shall be torn from its foundation and shattered into fragments.

"The will of the people that demanded of a legislative body the passage of an eight-hour law has been overthrown. Forty thousand of a majority of the citizens of the state failed to arrest corruption and debauchery that made the sworn servants of the people forget their honor and sacrifice their fidelity to the people, to serve the interests of corporate masters. The price of treason was paid and the eight-hour law became a corpse, strangled to death and consigned to the morgue, by legislative assassins, who repudiated pledges and trampled under foot the greatest issue in the election campaign of 1902.

Eight-Hour Law Defeat.

"When the miners, who had waged a peaceable battle for years to place upon the statute books of the state an eight-hour law, discovered that the men in whom they had placed their political confidence had ignored the mandate of the constitutional amendment, then was it that hope fled, and the Western Federation of Miners, as well as all the other departments of organized labor in the state, realized that corporation infamy and legislative rascality must be met with the power of unflinching unionism.

"Since the Western Federation of Miners has unfurled its flag upon the industrial battlefield of Colorado, to establish an eight-hour law and uphold the voice of the people as expressed at the ballot box, the Republican party, with its truckling governor and brainless adjutant general, has resorted to all the machinery of legalized violence to suppress the voice of labor and fasten the shackles of corporate serfdom upon the callous hands of the toiling thousands. The Republican party of Colorado has assaulted the citadel of civil law with bristling bayonets, and the liberty of citizenship has been immolated upon the altar of military might, in order that cold-blooded monopoly might rule supreme. The Republican party, by its mute silence, sanctions the wrongs that have been perpetrated by the corporation-owned state administration, and tacitly defends the unprovoked and brutal persecution that has blackened and disgraced the history of the state since an unscrupulous and conscienceless Peobody dishonored the executive chair of the commonwealth by his diabolical and polluted presence. We earnestly appeal to the labor manhood of the state of Colorado to register a protest in the next state election that will bury Republicanism so deep in the grave of oblivion that all the eloquence of modern Ciceros will not be able to call from the tomb the prostituted party whose lingering semblance of honor was befouled by corporation boodle.

Goldfield "Bullpen."

"Under the present political administration of the state the military "bullpen" has been made a bastile, where the independence of citizenship is mocked by the exultant jeers of a military rabble, recuited from the slum and riff-raff of hoodlum humanity. In the Cripple Creek district the membership of our organization has been held without warrant or process of law and persecuted by a military vengence that has been fed and inflamed by the official anarchists, who tower above law and constitution. The ball and chain, the relics of barbarism and the dark ages, now fetter the limbs of our membership at Telluride, because their proud spirits rebelled against bowing in dishonorable submission to the czarism of the exterminators of organized labor.

"The Western Federation of Miners has at all times been ready and willing to go more than half way in meeting the mine operators of the state, and use every honorable effort to bring to a close this conflict, that has left scars upon the welfare and prosperity of every citizen of the state.

"The difference in Telluride between employer and employee would have been settled upon an amicable basis were it not for the mercenary hyneas who have fought unionism for years, and who, in exchange for their enmity, have felt the loss of commercial patronage.

"To the members of the Cripple Creek district, to the brave men of our organization in Telluride, who have suffered insult, humiliation and imprisonment, to the soldiers of our dauntless army in Arizona, California, Nevada and in every other locality within the jurisdiction of our organization, where our membership is fighting a battle against corporate despotism and for the uplifting of humanity to a higher plane of civilization, the executive board of the Western Federation of Miners, now in session assembled, pledges the moral and financial support of the organization, to the end that justice may be crowned with laurels of victory, and that haughty, insolent greed, under bayonet protection, shall fall prostrate and lifeless before the never-surrender struggle which demands that manhood shall be liberated from the thralldom of merciless, incorporated brigandage.

The Coal Strike.

"To the coal miners of the state, who have joined in the battle cry for eight hours and more human conditions, whose loyalty to unionism has been warned by the thrilling eloquence of a "Mother" Jones, whom a uniformed ruffian threatened with the "cow pen," we pledge the deathless fraternity of our organization, realizing that in their victory we can join in the chorus that will commemorate the triumph of organized labor in the Centennial state. We pledge the membership of our organization, that injustice and wrong shall be fought with every legal weapon in our armory, and if unionism must wear the crown of martrydom and die at the stake through relentless persecution, then the present generation can quote the heroic sentiment expressed by Paul Kruger, that the price that will be paid for our annihilation will stagger humanity.

"The recruiting offices that have been opened by authority of the governor and the adjutant general of the state have merely been employment agencies, to furnish strike breakers to enable the Mine Owners' Association to resume operations; but this fiendish scheme has been a costly failure, and now the governor of the state has declared martial law in Teller County, notwithstanding the fact that such a declaration is an open and brazen violation of the constitution, which the governor is sworn to uphold. Notwithstanding the fact that there is no insurrection or invasion, notwithstanding the fact that the civil authorities have at no time been shorn of their power except by military lawlessness. Colorado's standard bearer of rotton Republicanism has at last crowned all the infamy of his shameless career of official perfidy by proclaiming martial law because the Mine Owners' Association, with all the armed power of the state, reinforced by ex-convicts and gun thugs, have failed to break the strike. The executive board can find no words sufficiently strong to denounce this act in the most brutal drama of coercion that makes a Russian Siberia a paradise when compared to Colorado.

"We know no surrender, and justice will arise from the staggering blows administered by a soulless executive, and the future will record the political revenge of an oppressed people, who are awakening from their lethargy to smite unbridled tyranny a blow that will end in eternal death.

Charles H. Moyer, President.
J. C. Williams, Vice-President.
Wm. D. Haywood, Sec'y-Treas.
J. T. Lewis, L. J. Simpkins,
Jas. P. Murphy, D. C. Copley,
James Kirwin, J. A. Baker,
Executive Board."

PIERSON'S ARREST

S. L. P. ORGANIZER'S ACCOUNT OF THE LITTLE AFFAIR AT GALVESTON.

San Antonio, Tex., Dec. 22.—For the four days' work just ended in Galveston I will say that I succeeded in getting twenty-four subscribers to The Weekly People.

I held one very successful meeting, selling twenty books and distributing some 200 leaflets. At the close of the meeting I was placed under arrest and charged with obstructing the sidewalk. At the trial this morning the officer who made the arrest, after giving his testimony, and when questioned by me, convinced the Court that he hadn't proven his case and, as a result, I was discharged.

This didn't seem to satisfy the police officials, so I was rearrested and charged with disorderly conduct. After lying in the cell for some two hours, waiting for the second trial, I was taken into the Chief of Police's office and introduced to two labor fakirs, one by the name of Dee, who runs the Galveston Labor Journal, and the other Lem Husted, organizer for the Bartenders' Union, who hails from Louisville, Ky. As I had previously told the police officials that the above city was my place of birth, the object of Husted's visit, prearranged, of course, by the police, was to find out if I really did live in Louisville. After giving them all the information I thought was necessary, I asked Husted if he knew Comrade Sweeney, of Louisville. The minute the Comrade's name was mentioned, Husted flew in a rage, and when I began arraigning his fakir crew, from Sammy Gompers down, he could stand it no longer. The officers present came to his rescue and stopped the fun.

The charge of disorderly conduct was so flimsy that even the officers, when they had cooled down, saw it, and, as a result, it was dropped and my release followed.

The Galveston Tribune printed the following account of the whole proceeding, which I herewith reprodu[illegible] to show the workers the misrepresentation resorted to by the capitalist press:

"HIS LANGUAGE INFLAMMATORY.

"Socialist Street Orator Was Stopped in His Talk by Police.

"Charles Pierson, claiming to be a representative of the Socialist Labor Party, was arrested last night by Officer William Zuber upon the charge of obstructing the streets. The man's obstruction consisted in the placing of a dry goods box in the middle of the street and speaking therefrom. As stated by the officer and the defendant, the obstruction was removed when the speaker was notified to do so, in view of which fact the recorder entered a judgment of not guilty in the case. The man was re-arrested upon the charge of disorderly conduct and locked up. According to the testimony of the officer, the speaker referred to the President of the United States and other officials of this Government, including the local police, in language which was very disparaging—in fact, almost inciting—and overstepped the bound of free speech granted by the Constitution. Pierson is a painter by trade. It is claimed that some of the remarks in his speech last night were inflammatory in a marked degree. The address was made at the corner of Twenty-first and Market streets."

I wrote the following reply to the above paper, which they refused to publish, claiming it was too abusive. Let the comrades and all other intelligent workingmen judge for themselves after they have read it, whether I have used abuse or not:

"Galveston, Tex., Dec. 18, 1903.

"Editor Galveston Tribune:

"Dear Sir—I noticed in your issue of yesterday (Thursday) an article in reference to the speech I made at the corner of Twenty-first and Market streets. By reading this article, any intelligent workingman can see that you cater to the capitalist class.

"Your article is headed with the words, 'His Language Inflammatory.' Well, if you call speaking the truth inflammatory, I would advise you to go to school and learn what the word means.

"In my speech I quoted President Roosevelt's name to show to the workers that he and his party, as well as the Democratic and bogus Socialist parties, were nothing more nor less than tools in the hands of the capitalist class, and as such they were a stench in the nostrils of any decent workingman. I made reference to the police force, militia and regular army to prove that these organizations were organized for the purpose of protecting the interests of the capitalist class, as against the interests of the working class, and cited, as instances, the present Cripple Creek strike, the late strike in Chicago, and the strikes that

(Continued on page 6)

INDUSTRIAL CRISES

(The following is a chapter—No. VIII.—from Karl Kautsky's pamphlet, "The Capitalist Class," published by the New York Labor News Company:)

Great as is the uncertainty of a livelihood for all classes under the existing social conditions, the uncertainty is further increased by the crises, which are periodically brought on with the certainty of doom the moment production reaches a certain stage.

The important effect of these crises upon the body economic during the last decades, together with the general confusion of thought that prevails upon the subject requires special attention.

The extensive modern crises, which convulse the world's markets, arise from overproduction, which in its turn arises from the planlessness that inevitably accompanies the modern system of production.

Overproduction, in the sense of more being produce than is actually needed, may occur under any system. But such could, as a matter of course, cause no injury so long as the producers produce for the satisfaction of their own wants. If, for instance, in generations gone by, a farmer's crop of corn happened to be larger than he needed, he stored up the surplus against poorer years, and when his barn was full he would feed his cattle with the residue, or, at worst, let it lie and spoil.

SOURCES OF INDUSTRIAL CRISES.

It is otherwise with the modern system of production. In the first place, in its well developed form, no one produces for himself, but for someone else; every one must buy what he needs. Moreover, the total production of society is not carried on in a planful way; on the contrary, it is left to each producer to estimate for himself the quantity of the demand there may be for the goods which he produces. In the second place, just as soon as the modern system of production has outgrown its first stage, no one except the producer of coinable metals can buy before he has sold. These are the two roots out of which the crises shoot up.

For the illustration of this fact, let the simplest example possible serve. At a market place, let there come together an owner of money, say a gold digger, with twenty dollars in gold; a wine merchant with a cask of wine; a weaver with a bundle of cotton cloth; and a miller with a load of meal. To simplify the case, let the value of each of these goods be equal to twenty dollars, and [illegible] has correctly estimated the needs of the other; the wine merchant sells his wine to the gold digger, and with the twenty dollars which he receives therefor purchases the cloth in the hands of the weaver; and lastly the weaver invests the proceeds of his cloth in the purchase of the load of meal. Each will go home satisfied.

Next year these four meet again, each calculating upon the same demand for his goods as before. Let it be assumed that the gold digger is as partial now as he was last year for the wine merchant's wine, but that the latter has either no need for cloth, or requires the money to pay a debt, and prefers wearing a torn skirt to purchasing new material. In that case the wine merchant keeps in his pocket the twenty dollars and goes home. In vain does the weaver wait for a customer; and for the same reason that he waits the miller is also expectant. The weaver's family may be hungry; he may crave for the meal in the miller's hands; but he has produced cotton cloth for which there is no demand; and for the same reason that the cloth became "superfluous," the meal also is rendered "superfluous." Neither the weaver nor the miller has any money; neither can purchase what he wants; what they have produced now appears as excessive production; and, furthermore, the same is the case with all other goods that have been produced for their use, and which they stand in need of. To carry the illustration a little further, the table produced by the joiner and needed by the miller, the shoes produced by the shoemaker and needed by the joiner, etc., etc., all of these remain unexchanged, unused—they are "overproduction."

WHY THE CRISIS IS UNKNOWN IN THE FIRST STAGES OF PRODUCTION FOR SALE.

The leading features of an industrial crisis are all present in this illustration. Of course, in reality, the crisis does not manifest itself at such a primitive stage of production. At the first stages of the production of merchandise, of production for sale, every producer produces more or less for self-consumption; production for sale constitutes, in each family, but a part of its total industry. The weaver and the miller of the illustration given above are each possessed of a patch of land and some cattle, and they can patiently wait until a purchaser turns up for their commodities. If the worst came to the worst, they could even manage to live without him.

Furthermore, in the first stages of production for sale, the market is still small; it can be easily sized up; year in, year out, production and consumption, the whole social life of a community, keep on the even tenor of their ways. In our small settlements of a generation and more ago, every one knew everybody, and was well informed upon his wants and his purchasing capacity. In most cases, the industrial mechanism of such places remained substantially the same from year to year; the number of producers, the productivity of labor, the quantity of products, the number of consumers, their wants, the money at their disposal—all of these changed but slowly, and each change was promptly observed and taken into consideration.

All this takes on a different aspect with the appearance of commerce upon the stage of the world's history. Under its influence, production for self-consumption is crowded ever more to the rear; the individual producers of goods for sale, and to a greater exent the dealers, are more and more thrown for their support upon the sale of their goods, and, what is most important, upon their quick sale. A delay in the sale of a commodity, and, worse yet, the prevention of the sale of a commodity, now becomes ever more disastrous to its owner; it may even cause his ruin. Together with this condition of things, the danger of a block in the wheels of commerce grows apace.

RELATION OF MODERN COMMERCE TO INDUSTRIAL CRISES.

Through commerce, the several and distantly located markets are brought together, but thereby the general market is greatly extended, and it becomes correspondingly more difficult to control. This inconvenience is still further enhanced by the appearance of one or more middlemen, who squeeze themselves between the producers and the consumers as a requirement of trade. Finally, commerce, acting hand in hand with the development of the means of transportation, lends wings to merchandise; to-day these can be brought together in large quantities on any spot upon the slightest provocation. All these causes combined render more and more uncertain the work of estimating the demands for, and the supply of, commodities. The development of statistics does not remove this uncertainty. The whole economic life of society becomes ever more dependent upon mercantile speculation, and the latter becomes ever more risky.

The merchant is a speculator from the start; speculation was not invented at the exchange; it is a necessary function of the capitalist. By speculating, that is to say, by estimating in advance the demand for a commodity; by buying his goods where he can get them cheap, namely, where their supply is excessive, and selling them where they are dear, namely, where they are scarce, the merchant helps to bring some order into the chaos of the planless system of production carried on by individually independent concerns. But he is liable to error in his calculations, especially as he is not allowed much time to think. He is not the only merchant in the world; hundreds and thousands of competitors lie in wait to profit by every favorable opportunity; whoever first espies this carries off the prize. Under such circumstances, quickness is a necessity; it will not do to reflect long, to inquire much; the capitalist must venture; nothing venture, nothing have! Yet he may lose. As soon as there is a great demand for a commodity in any market it flows thither in large masses, until its quantity exceeds the digestive powers of the market. Then prices tumble; the merchant must sell cheap, often at a loss, or seek another market with his goods. His losses in this operation may be large enough to ruin him.

Wherever the modern system of production for sale is well developed and prevails, any given market is either excessively or insufficiently supplied. Capitalist economists pronounce this to be a most wise and admirable provision. Common sense holds differently. However that may be, the thing is inevitable from the moment production for sale reaches a certain degree of perfection and is kept in force. But this "wise" provision may lead to the result that, in response to some extraordinary cause, the overstocking of a market becomes so excessive that the losses of the merchants may be extraordinarily heavy, and a large number of them become unable to meet their liabilities—that is to say, they "fail." Under such circumstances, a first-class commercial crisis is on the tapis.

So long as small production was the leading form of industry, the extent and intensity of commercial crises could be but limited. Whatever the call, it was not then possible to increase rapidly the total amount of wealth at any one place. Under the rule of small industry, production is not capable of any considerable extension; it cannot be extended by the employment of a large number of workmen. Under ordinary circumstances, it employs all the members of a community that are at all able to work. It could be extended only by making heavier the burden of toil borne by the worker—lengthening his hours of work, depriving him of holidays, etc.; but in the good old days the independent mechanic and farmer, who were not yet crowded by the competition of large production, did not hanker after this sort of thing; and finally, even if they submitted to such imposition, it made little difference to production—the productivity of labor was trifling.

This changes with the rise of capitalist large production. It not only develops all the means that enable commerce to swamp any market with goods to a degree never dreamed of before, it not only expands the separate markets into a world's market that embraces the whole globe, it not only multiplies the number of the middlemen between the producer and the consumer, but it enables production to respond to every call of the trade as well, and to extend and increase with leaps and bounds.

At present, the very circumstance that the workmen are wholly subject to the capitalist—that he can, virtually at will, lengthen their hours of work, suspend their Sundays, and eat into their night rest—enables him to increase production at a more rapid pace than it was formerly possible. But, furthermore, to-day one single hour of overwork means, with the present productivity of labor, an increase of production immensely larger than in the days of manufacture. Nor is this all. To-day the capitalist is in a condition to extend his concern upon short notice. Thanks to credit, capital has become a very elastic quantity. A brisk trade increases confidence, draws money out upon the street, shortens the time requisite for the circulation of money, and, accordingly, increases its effectiveness. But most important of all, capital has permanently at its disposal a large reserve army of workmen—the unemployed. The capitalist is thus able at any time to expand his establishment, to employ additional workmen, to increase his production rapidly, and to profit to the utmost by every favorable opportunity.

It has been shown that under the rule of large production industrial capital steps ever more to the front, and takes control of the whole capitalist mechanism. But within the circle of capitalist production itself, special branches of industry take the lead, as, for instance, the iron and spinning industries. The moment any of these receives a special impetus—be it through the opening of new markets in China or the undertaking of extensive railroad lines—not only does it expand rapidly, but it imparts the impetus it has received to the whole body economic. Other capitalists enlarge their establishments, start new ones, increase the consumption of raw and subsidiary materials; new hands are taken in; and, simultaneously with all these, rent, profits, and wages go up. The demand increases for all sorts of goods; all sorts of industries begin to feel the industrial prosperity; and this finally becomes general. At such times it looks as if every undertaking must prosper; confidence becomes blind; credit grows boundless; whoever has a share of the increasing profits and rent seeks to turn a portion thereof into capital. Industrial giddiness takes possession of one and all.

MECHANISM OF AN INDUSTRIAL CRISIS UNDER CAPITALISM.

In the midst of all this, production has increased prodigiously, and the originally increased demand in the market has been satisfied. Nevertheless, production does not stop. One producer does not know what the other is about. Although, at some lucid interval, doubts and misgivings may arise in the mind of some capitalist or another, these are soon smothered by the necessity he is under of profiting by the favorable opportunity that seems at hand, and not to be left behind in the competitive chase; he knows that "the devil takes the hindmost." In the meantime, the disposal of the increased quantity of goods becomes even more difficult, and grows slower; the stores fill up; yet the hurly-burly goes on. Then comes the moment when one of the mercantile establishments must pay for the goods which were received from the manufacturer months before. The goods are yet unsold; the creditor has the goods but no money; he cannot meet his obligations, and fails. Next comes the turn of the manufacturer; he has also contracted debts that fall due; as his debtor cannot pay him, he, too, is done for. Thus one bankruptcy follows another; a general collapse ensues; the recent blind confidence turns into an equally blind fear; the panic grows general; and the crash is on.

At such times the whole industrial mechanism is shaken to its very center; every establishment that is not planted upon the firmest grounds drops. Misfortune overtakes not the fraudulent concerns alone, but also all those which in ordinary times managed to keep their heads above water. At such seasons, the expropriation of the small farmers, small producers, small dealers, and small capitalists goes on rapidly. Nor is it the small fry alone that is swept overboard; many a big fish goes along; there is hardly anyone certain of not being dragged down in the general ruin. As a matter of course, those among the large capitalists who survive derive a rich booty. During the crisis two important things take place: first, the expropriation of the "small fry;" secondly, the concentration of production in fewer hands, and thereby the promotion of the accumulation of large fortunes.

As few, if any, can tell whether they will survive the crisis, all the horrors of the modern system of production are then experienced in an intensified degree; the uncertainty of a livihood, want, prostitution, and crime reach at such times alarming proportions. Thousands perish with hunger and cold—wonderfully to say, because they have produced too much clothing, food, and other wealth! It is at such seasons that the fact becomes most glaring that the modern productive powers are becoming more and more irreconcilable with the system of production for sale, and that private ownership in the means of production is growing into a greater and greater curse for everybody—first for the class of the propertiless, and then for that of the property-holders themselves.

THE CRISIS BECOMES PERMANENT.

With the fuller development of the capitalist system, that is to say, with the increased concentration of all wealth into fewer and fewer hands, aided greatly by previous crises, the crisis has ceased to be a "periodical occurrence" in the strict sense in which it was so before. At one time, and that not long ago, one-quarter of the failures that now occur regularly every year would have created public consternation; to-day, a much more swollen and ever-swelling register of bankruptcies passes unperceived by the public, but they are not, therefore, the less felt by the innumerable victims; the hemorrhage is now chronic; the crisis has become permanent, and, with it all its horrors.

It is probably owing to this circumstance, to-wit, that the phenomenon of the crisis has ceased to be "periodical," that some uncritical, feather-brained, political economists have declared the trust would do away with the crisis. This is false.

The regulation of production by large syndicates or trusts pre-supposes above all things their control of all branches of industry and the organization of these upon an international basis in all countries over which the capitalist system of production stretches itself. Until now, no successful international trust has yet appeared in any leading industry; so far, the Standard Oil Trust is the nearest approach to one. International trusts are difficult to organize, and more difficult to hold together. More than forty years ago, Karl Marx pointed out that not only does competition promote monopoly, but monopoly promotes competition. The larger the profits that accrue to a trust, the greater is the danger of an outstanding and powerful capitalist setting up a competing concern to pluck some of the profits himself; and, furthermore, the more business prospers, the greater is the temptation of every member of the trust concern to escape the restrictions imposed by the trust, and to withdraw from it. When prices go down, the anxiety for trustification is great; when prices go up, every producer strives to improve the opportunity to his utmost, and to throw upon the market as many goods as possible. But this has its limits, and a point is finally reached when the trust becomes permanent. The trust will in most cases fail to check overproduction. With regard to overproduction, the principal mission of the trust is, not to check it, but to shift its evil consequences from the shoulders of the capitalists upon those of the workmen and consumers. It is intended to aid the large capitalists in weathering the storm of the crisis; temporarily to restrict production; to discharge workmen, and cut down expenses all along the line, without considerably affecting profits. Within the boundaries of one country, the difficulties that beset the formation and preservation of the trust are very considerably lessened; the trust can and does flourish there; it is different, however, with an international trust.

INTERNATIONAL TRUST DOES NOT ABOLISH THE CRISIS.

But let it be assumed that eventually the leading industries shall have been successfully organized into the international trusts, under such strict discipline that they will resist the dissolving effect of good times. What were then the result? Competition among capitalists would be removed only on one side. The more completely competition disappears among the producers in one and the same branch of industry, all the greater becomes the antagonism between them and the producers of other commodities who depend upon the products of the trust. In the measure in which the hostilities cease between the producers engaged in the same branch of industry, they become bitterer between the producers and the consumers. It so happens, however, that every producer is also a consumer. The cotton mill owner, for instance, is a consumer, apart from his private and personal needs, of cotton, coal, machinery, oil, and the other requisites of a cotton mill. In short, complete, international trustification would cause the capitalist class to be divided, no longer into separate individuals, but with hostile clans, who would wage war to the knife against one another.

To-day every single capitalist is eager to produce as mush as possible, to throw upon the market all the goods he can, because, other things being equal, the more goods, the more profit; only his estimate of the capacity of the market and his own capicity to enlarge his capital limit the extent to which he will produce. On the other hand, when the system of trusts shall have become general, we shall not then find a better regulation of production, and with that a discontinuation of the crisis, as some white-washers of our present social order would make us believe; what we shall find is the general eagerness of each separate trust to produce as little as possible, because the smaller the supply the higher the price. The practice, formerly, and even to-day not infrequently, resorted to by merchants of destroying a portion of their goods when the market is overstocked, with the view of securing profitable prices for the rest, would then, in a manner, become general. It is evident, however, that society could not then continue to exist. If every trust strains for underproduction, all others would strain to force those trusts whose products they need into a state of overproduction. The ways of doing this would be many. The simplest would be for a trust to retrench its own consumption more than the other trust retrenches its production; another way would be to call upon science to supply the want of the article whose production is trustified and retrenched; still a third would be for the trust concerns whose consumption is thus affected to undertake, themselves, to produce what they need.

Imagine that the copper mines are trustified, that the production of copper is thereby reduced and that prices are run up. What would be the result? Among the producers whose business uses up copper, some will close down and await better times; others will go in search of other metal that may take the place of copper; and still others will themselves purchase copper mines or promote their sale, and thereby free themselves from dependence upon the "Copper Ring." The end of all this is the bursting of the trust and its bankruptcy, and then we have another crisis.

The trust does not abolish the crisis. The only influence it would have in that direction would be to give the crisis another form—but not a better one. Bankruptcies would not be at an end; the only difference would be that they would extend their spheres; they would not fall upon the capitalists separately, but upon whole sets of them at once, and with them, of course, ruin the large mass whose existence is dependent upon them. Accordingly, the trust cannot do away with the crisis; what, on the contrary, it can do is to bring on such sorts of crises as will be more devastating than anything mankind has yet experienced.

Only when that point should have been reached that all the trusts are joined into one, and that the whole machinery of production of all capitalist nations is concentrated into one single hand, namely, only when private property in the means of production shall have virtually come to an end, only then could the trust have for its effect the abolition of the crisis. But, contrariwise, from a certain stage in the industrial development, the crisis, either in the "periodical," or present "permanent," or in some other and more aggravated forth, is inevitable, so long as private property continues in the means of production. It is simply impossible to remove the shadows cast by private property in the instruments of production, and yet to preserve the thing itself.

THE CAPITALIST CLASS.

But capitalism has virtually reduced the size of the globe. Only a hundred years ago, the market for capitalist industry was comparatively limited and was almost wholly monopolized by England. But such was the activity and vigor of the capitalists, their aiders and abettors, and so gigantic were the means at their disposal, that since then almost all countries on earth have been forced open, not by the products of England alone, but by those of all capitalist nations, so that to-day there are hardly any other markets left to be opened, except such from which there is little else to be fetched besides fevers and blows.

The wonderful development of transportation renders from year to year a completer exploitation of the market possible; but this tendency is counteracted by the circumstance that the market steadily undergoes a change in those very countries whose population has reached a certain degree of civilization. Everywhere the introduction of the goods of capitalist large production extinguishes the domestic system of small production, and transforms the industrial and agricultural workers into proletarians This transformation produces two important results in all the markets that are counted upon to absorb the surplus products of capitalist industry; first, it lowers the purchasing power of the population, and thereby counteracts the effect of the extension of the market; second, and more important than the first, it lays there the foundation for the establishment of the capitalist system of production by calling into existence the class of the proletariat, a class that did not previously exist in such localities.

HOW CAPITALISM DIGS ITS OWN GRAVE.

The capitalist large production digs its own grave. From a certain point onward in its development, every new extension of the market is tantamount to conjuring up a new competitor. At present capitalist production in the Unites States, which is not quite a generation old, is engaged not only in the work of freeing itself from its European competitor, but in a frantic endeavor to seize upon the market of the whole American continent. The still more youthful capitalist industry of Russia has started in to be the sole purveyor of the whole extensive territory owned by Russia in Europe and Asia. The East Indies, China, Japan, Australia, are developing into industrial States, that sooner or later will be able, industrially, to supply their own wants. In short, the moment is drawing near when the markets of the industrial countries can no longer be extended, and will begin to contract. The moment this effect shall begin to be felt, it will be the signal for the wholesale bankruptcy of capitalist society—a cataclysm, which, unless forestalled by the Socialist Revolution and the establishment of the Socialist Republic, will engulf the world.

For some time past, the extension of the market has not held pace with the requirements of capitalist production; the latter is, consequently, more and more hampered, and finds it increasingly difficult to develop fully the productive powers that it possesses. The intervals of strong industrial activity become ever shorter.

FACTORY WORK AS IT IS AND MIGHT BE

A SERIES OF FOUR PAPERS BY WILLIAM MORRIS, REPRINTED FROM "JUSTICE" IN THE "CRAFTSMAN" FOR DECEMBER

(Continued from last week.)

III.

In a recent article we tried to look through the present into the future and see a factory as it might be, and got as far as the surroundings and outside of it; but those externals of a true palace of industry can be only realized naturally and without affectation by the work which is to be done in them being in all ways reasonable and fit for human beings; I mean no mere whim of some rich and philanthropic manufacturer will make even one factory permanently pleasant and agreeable for the workers in it; he will die or be sold up, his heir will be poorer or more singlehearted in his devotion to profit, and all the beauty and order will vanish from the short-lived dream; even the external beauty in industrial concerns must be the work of society, and not of individuals.

Now as to the work! First of all it will be useful, and therefore honorable and honored, because there will be no temptation to make mere useless toys, since there will be no rich men cudgelling their brains for means for spending superfluous money, and, consequently, no "organizers of labor" pandering to degrading follies for the sake of profit, wasting their intelligence and energy in contriving snares for cash in the shape of trumpery, which they themselves heartily despise. Nor will the work turn out trash; there will be no millions of poor to make a market for wares which no one would choose to use if he were not driven to do so; everyone will be able to afford things good of their kind, and, as will be shown hereafter, will have knowledge of goods enough to reject what is not excellent; coarse and rough wares may be made for rough or temporary purposes, but they will openly proclaim themselves for what they are; adulterations will be unknown.

Furthermore, machines of the most ingenious and best-approved kinds will be used when necessary, but will be used simply to save human labor; nor indeed could they be used for anything else in such well-ordered work as we are thinking about; since, profit being dead, there would be no temptation to pile up wares whose apparent value as articles of use, their conventional value as such, does not rest on the necessities or reasonable desires of men for such things, but on artificial habits forced on the public by the craving of the capitalists for fresh and ever fresh profit. These things have no real value as things to be used, and their conventional (let us say sham) utility value has been bred of their value, as articles of exchange for profit in a society founded on profit mongering.

Well, the manufacture of useless goods, whether harmful luxuries for the rich or disgraceful makeshifts for the poor having come to an end, and we still being in possession of the machines once used for mere profit grinding, but now used only for saving human labor, it follows that much less labor will be necessary for each workman; all the more, as we are going to get rid of all non-workers, and busy-idle people; so that the working time of each member of our factory will be very short—say, to be much within the mark, four hours a day.

Now, next it may be allowable for an artist—that is, one whose ordinary work is pleasant and not slavish—to hope that in no factory will all the work, even that necessary four hours' work, be mere machine tending; and it follows from what was said above about machines being used to save labor, that there would be no work which would turn men into mere machines; therefore, at least some portion of the work—the necessary, and, in fact, compulsory work, I mean—would be pleasant to do. The machine tending ought not to require a very long apprenticeship, therefore in no case should any person be set to run up and down after a machine through all his working hours every day, even so shortened as we have seen. Now, the attractive work of our factory—that which was pleasant in itself to do—would be of the nature of art, therefore all slavery work ceases under such a system, for whatever is burdensome about the factory would be taken turn and turn about, and, so distributed, would cease to be a burden—would be, in fact, a kind of rest from the more exciting or artistic work.

Thus, then, would the sting be taken out of the factory system, in which, as things now are, the socialism of labor, which ought to have been a blessing to the community, has been turned into a curse by the appropriation of the products of its labor by individuals, for the purpose of gaining for them the very doubtful advantages of a life of special luxury and often of mere idleness, the result of which to the mass of the workers has been a dire slavery, of which long hours of labor, ever increasing strain of labor during those hours and complete repulsiveness in the work itself have been the greatest evils.

It remains for me in another article to set forth my hopes of the way in which the gathering together of people in such social bodies as properly ordered factories might be, may be utilized for increasing the general pleasure of life and raising its standard, material and intellectual; for creating, in short, that life rich in incident and variety, but free from the strain of mere sordid trouble, the life which the individualist vainly babbles of, but which the Socialist aims at directly and will one day attain to.

IV.

I have tried to show in former articles that in a duly ordered society, in which people would work for a livelihood and not for the profit of another, a factory might not only be pleasant as to its surroundings and beautiful in its architecture, but that even the rough and necessary work done in it might be so arranged as to be neither burdensome in itself nor of long duration for each worker. But furthermore, the organization of such a factory—that is to say, a group of people working in harmonious co-operation towards a useful end—would of itself afford opportunities for increasing the pleasure of life.

To begin with, such a factory will surely be a centre of education. Any children who seem likely to develop gifts towards its special industry would gradually and without pain, amidst their book learning, be drawn into technical instruction, which would bring them at last into a thorough apprenticeship for their craft; therefore, the bent of each child having been considered in choosing its instruction and occupation, it is not too much to expect that children so educated will look forward eagerly to the time when they will be allowed to work at turning out real useful wares. A child, whose manual dexterity has been developed without undue forcing side by side with its mental intelligence, would surely be as eager to handle shuttle, hammer and what not, for the first time as a real workman, and begin making, as a young gentlemen now is to get

(Continued on page 3.)

ROOSEVELT'S SAW-TOOTH CLUB

The following articles, which speak for themselves, are herewith reproduced by special request.

(N. Y. World, Sept. 15, 1896.)

THE NEW SAW-TOOTH CLUB FOR POLICEMEN.

The new police club, a short description of which has been published in The World, is already the subject of enthusiastic comment of the rank and file of the force in this city. Their general belief is the weapon will carry terror promptly to the pugnacious evil-doer whose idea of gentle sport is to wrest a club from a policeman and hammer him over the head with it.

The new club, of which there are only two or three in use, has a swivel handle, which prevents it from being twisted from the grasp of its holder.

The novel feature of the club is the arrangement by which sixteen saw-teeth, each half an inch in length, pop out of sixteen holes, and dig into the hand which grasps it and gives one strong pull.

The teeth remain concealed until an attempt is made to wrench the club from a policeman. The united pulls in opposite directions lacerate the hands in a jiffy.

(Weekly People, Sept. 20, 1896.)

RETURNING TO BARBARISM.

THE NEW CLUB.

If This Does Not Open Your Eyes It Will Open Your Head.

Grounds Upon Which Patent Commissioner Holt, Years Ago, Rejected the Application of the Inventor of the Horrible Weapon with Which the Police Is Now to be Armed—Melancholy Illustration of the Power of Professional Prejudice Over Humanity.

New York, Sept. 16.—The "World" this morning gives an illustrated description of the new tooth club for policemen. In the Patent Office Reports, Mechanics, Vol. 2, for 1858, page 690, will be found Commissioner J. Holt's reasons for refusal to grant a patent for this club on an appeal from the decision of the Examiner, as follows:

United States Patent Office,
November 14, 1857.

On appeal to the Commissioner from the decision of the Examiner rejecting the application of John McLarty for letters patent for an improved "policeman's club."

The model of the "club" on file is twelve inches long, is round, and about an inch and a quarter in diameter. It has a smooth and polished surface, and resembles the baton usually borne by police and other officers. In practical use it would be lengthened, and would no doubt, in accordance with the views of the inventor, take the form of an ordinary walking cane. Its exterior gives no indication of its real character and capabilities. Its barrel is hollowed and within it is an inglorious mechanism connected with four longitudinal rows of "spurs or lancets" which is concealed in the tube. On touching a spring, these lancets are made to leap from their hiding places, and through them by a single wrench of the weapon, a most fearful mutilation is inflicted on the hand of any adversary that may have grasped it. In the technics of street encounters it may then be "clubbed" and its lancets made to bury themselves at will in the hand and body of the victim. Its operation must prove as instantaneous as it is irresistible. The professed object of the inventor in fashioning this club was to supply what he states has long been a desideratum, to wit: A weapon not deadly, dispensing with the necessity of a resort to pistols, which policemen might use effectively, but which could not be wrested from them by the rowdies and malefactors with whom their official duties might bring them into conflict. There are on file the depositions of the Superintendent and Deputy Superintendent of the New York City police, fortified by the certificates of fifteen members of the corps, all of whom concur in stating that this club will accomplish the end proposed by the inventor. They also declare, most emphatically, that they regard it as an important and valuable improvement; and a part of them express the opinion that it is not only harmless, but humane. These views have been carefully examined and considered, but they have not seemed the less startling because of the sincerity with which they are unquestionably entertained. They present a strange, if not melancholy, illustration of the power of professional prejudice over the higher convictions and gentler impulses of our nature. The purpose sought to be attained by the inventor—the safety of conservators of the public peace, and their triumph in conflicts with lawless men—is one which must command the approbation of all good citizens; but even this end may become unhallowed by the means employed to attain it. The law, happily, enjoys a wider range of vision than that which these witnesses seem to have allowed themselves, and while it would gladly secure the protection of all, it unhesitatingly recognizes that it has the charge of interests, social and political, compared with which even the safety of policemen is but as the dust on the balance.

Justice to the inventor demands the admission that the mechanism of this miniature infernal machine displays sufficient novelty to support a patent. The law, however, in its wisdom, has declared that something beyond mere novelty must be established before a patent can issue. The invention must not only be new, but it must be important and useful. It should be distinctly stated at the threshold of this inquiry that this instrument, with a view to mitigating that abhorrence with which the over-humane might regard it, disclaims all designs upon human life, and moderates its ambition in the drama of blood to the more humble work of mayhem and laceration. Thus operating, the testimony on file shows that it would be eminently useful to policemen. Conceding this assumption, it is still obvious that this is too limited a measure of utility to satisfy the law. An invention to be patentable must not be useful to the few with a chance of being pernicious to the many, but it must clearly appear that, in view of the interests of the whole community, the good resulting from it must decidedly preponderate over the evil. If the officers of the public justice, and those law-abiding citizens who love peace, and pursue it, could be induced to defile themselves with this instrument, and could its use be restricted to such, it might be comparatively harmless; but when it passes from the workshop of the mechanic who has fashioned it, it is manifestly beyond the control of the government, and will find its way into the hands of the brawling profligate as certainly as the stiletto seeks the belt of the bravo. Its manufacture and distribution through society, under the expectation that good would result therefrom, would be an act of folly equaled only by that of strewing our pathways with thorns in the delusive trust that they would bud and blossom into flowers at our approach. It is barbarous in its every characteristic, and is as repugnant to the genius of our institutions; and to the morality of that faith in whose shining footprints our legislation strives to follow, as is the scalping knife of the border savage. As national war is one of those scourges to which every country is exposed, it is fully within the scope of an enlightened public policy to encourage the manufacture of weapons for its efficient prosecution. But private war—the rude and sanguinary conflict of members of the same community with each other—stand upon an entirely different footing. It is everywhere denounced under heavy penalties, so that the blow can only be justified when it has been stricken in self-defense. This plainly-marked distinction determines the character of the weapons whose manufacture can claim the fostering care of the government. There can be no difficulty in deciding to which class the one under consideration belongs. It puts forth no pretension to rank as an instrument of national warfare. In this higher walk of human carnage it would be as lame and impotent as would be an ordinary squirt-gun in the presence of a conflagration. Nor is there any mechanical pursuit in which it could possibly be employed, nor any household or personal want to which it could possibly minister. It is intrinsically, in its inception and consummation and aim, a weapon of ferocious personal conflict, whose purpose is that of brutal mutilation.

To bring it, then, within the range of the principle laid down, it must be shown that, however cruel its mode of operation, yet from its structure and the manner in which it will be wielded, its mission upon the arena will be that of self-defense. Can this be done? In the first place, its deceptive form, quieting all apprehension, incites him who wears it to assaults upon others, by securing to him the advantage of a perpetual ambuscade. On the other hand, for the same reason, instead of repelling, it tends rather to invite attacks from others, by falsely presenting to them a seemingly unarmed front. When to this is added the consideration that disguise is ever a stratagem of the aggressor, and that he who, in good faith, seeks only his own defense, practices no concealment, we are forced to the conclusion that this policeman's club will be most generally wielded by men of violence and crime, and would play the part rather of the assailant than the assailed. The fact that it could be used for purposes of defense does not meet the stern exactions of the principles to which I have adverted. In determining the morality and policy of encouraging the fabrication of a weapon, the inquiry is not what use might be made of it by officers and law-abiding citizens, but to what purpose, in view of its peculiar characteristics, would it most probably and most generally be applied.

The government of almost every civilized people has striven with painful anxiety to repress the habit of wearing concealed weapons. With none of the frankness which distinguishes true courage, it is a usage whose fruits have been evil, and altogether evil, and which has written its own sad history in blood of some of the purest and noblest men of the times. But of all concealed weapons, the concealment of this is the most cunning and complete. In its spirit it is not merely unmanly, but skulking; and shocks, by the meanness of its cowardice, not only the chivalry, but the civilization, of the age. With its inoffensive form, its polished yet simple exterior seems radiant with the smile of peace, but it is a smile destined to prove but the dagger's gleam before it stabs all who trust it. No deceit could be more subtle and profound than the crouching of its lurking spear points, which display in the suddenness of their spring the ferocity of the tiger and the treachery of the kiss of Judas. Whether viewed as a weapon of offence or defense, it is adapted to the hands only of the most dissolute and the most dastardly, and evidently belongs to the same class with the burglar and the brass knuckles of the political ruffian. The national honor would not be more tarnished by granting a patent for the one than for the other.

Let the application be rejected.

J. Holt, Commissioner.
November 14, 1857.

And it has remained for the reform police commissioners of this reform-ridden city to arm the police with this "miniature infernal machine" in this year of our Lord 1896.

M. J. Boland.
390 Tenth avenue.

The reform police commissioner referred to is Theodore Roosevelt, now President of the United States.

DEPARTMENT STORES

The department stores, in striving for supremacy in retaildom, employ somewhat similar methods as Carnegie employs in the steel business, Rockefeller in oil and Havemeyer in sugar. If they cannot crush their competitors by what they call in capitalism "fair means," then other means are resorted to. He who stands in the way of these gigantic retail stores is condemned to perish—and perish he does, if the devil himself must be hired to do it.

We have shown in a previous article that, despite the fierce competition on the part of the department store, a large number of small stores are still able to do business at the old stand, with the aid of the wholesale houses. It is at this point that I wish to show where the battle is—not as some think, between the small storekeeper and the department store, but between the manufacturers and the department stores.

I will show you why. When the buyer of the department store has to buy his merchandise he does not (except in few cases) go to the manufacturer and select what he finds, but makes an offer instead. Here is an example. Buyer of department store, addressing manufacturer:

"We can use 500 dozen shirts made of—say, white cotton muslin. Must be 36 inches long, full-size body, sizes from 13½ to 17½, in various styles, bosom, etc., and we intend to retail them at 50 cents."

"But," would say our manufacturer, "a shirt of the make and material that you speak of was never yet retailed for less than 75 cents."

Our buyer of the department store is very persistent, though, and, in more times than one, he gets what he is after. The words "Cash on delivery," charms our manufacturer, and in nine cases out of ten he takes the loss out of the hides of the working class.

The point I want to make is, while to the small storekeeper the manufacturer sells for his own price, to the department stores he must sell at their price. For a long time the manufacturer has had to put up with this sort of thing. But of late the branded article has become the vogue, and, to a great extent, the manufacturer is protected from the dictation of the "tyrannical" department store. The value of the branded article is that it has a fixed place in the public mind. A good many people are already accustomed to asking for Manhattan shirts, or Featherbone binding, or Cremo cigars, or Old Crow whisky, or Heinz's pickles, or Stockwell's mucilage, or Keyser Barather neckwear, etc.

The maker of a branded commodity is independent to a certain extent and can dictate terms to the retailer. In many instances he compels the retailer to sign a contract that So-and-So's shirts and collars or whisky will not be sold for less than the stipulated price in the seasonable months of the year, after which a certain cut in price is allowed, but the cut in price is uniform. None of the dealers are allowed to sell for less—for more, yes.

Now, this sort of thing does not suit the upper capitalist class in the retail world. Of late the combine controlling a chain of department stores throughout the United States, the head manager of which is Mr. Henry Siegel, with the H. B. Claflin Company as the financial backers, have undertaken, so it is being rumored in retaildom, to wipe out the makers of branded goods.

Thousands upon thousands, sometimes reaching up to millions, are annually expended in advertisements for certain wares that have no intrinsic value except that they are forced upon the public mind.

As a member of the Socialist Labor Party, I can readily perceive that with the branded commodity under the control of the department stores, or drygoods trust, the small man will be a thing of the past, even as he exists to-day, a poorly paid agent of the manufacturers, making a certain commission on the branded article.

It is interesting to watch this battle now going on between the maker of the branded goods and the department stores. Instinctively the little cockroaches understand their interests. As well do we find on the other side a solid phalanx of the big bugs. And when noticing that class solidarity of the small as well as the big capitalist, I stop and wonder why my class, the working class does not do likewise. Oh, workingmen, when will you come to a realization of the fact that along the lines of the Socialist Labor Party, upon the political field, and the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance, upon the economic field, lies your emancipation?

Lately the Simpson Crawford Company, of the Dry Goods Trust, have started warfare upon the branded articles. For four weeks in succession a certain brand of whisky was sold for less than the wholesale cost, much to the dismay of the small retailers of whisky.

Last week the following advertisement appeared in the daily newspapers and created no little consternation in the retail world of this city. Of course a snap victory in favor of the small stores will not end the battle, as I will show you later.

Here is the advertisement, the name of the brand and the article being for obvious reasons left blank:

Simpson, Crawford Co.

"A two-day sale (to-day and Monday) of ——— at cut prices. No ——— for men is so thoroughly well known and universally popular as ——— silk. The quality of silk, the style and general finish are superior to any other sorts. We offer them to-day and Monday in the newest styles in ———, absolutely new and perfect—and never before sold at a cut price. They are genuine ——— and come in medium and dark effects in both figures and stripes. The universal price, $1.00; our special price, 68 cents. The universal price, $1.50; our special price, $1.12."

The above advertisement is truthful. Simpson-Crawford Company (Dry Goods Trust) paid as much for them as they sold them for, whereupon the small dealers invaded the manufacturer with all kinds of lamentations and threats. The manufacturer, seeing that no good could come out of this whole thing, gathered all his employes and as many other outsiders as he could depend upon, and had them all stationed in line with cash the morning of the announced sale, ready to buy up all the store had before the shopping public could get at them. The plan was carried out successfully. The manufacturer knew how many the store had in stock, and nearly all of them were back in his possession before 11 o'clock that morning.

Two days later the following circular was sent out to the trade:—

"This unjustifiable act was in direct violation of the conditions on which these goods and all ——— bearing the label are sold. These conditions are clearly set forth in the slip that has accompanied the invoice of every initial purchase of ———, as well as subsequent ones.

"Probably without a single exception in all departments of merchandise, whenever the merits of any one brand has made it distinguished and a public favorite, some dealer has endeavored to take unfair advantage of such article's reputation to accomplish what he imagines will help himself, even though at the expense of his competitors and the manufacturer. The maker of death-dealing prices loves a shining mark. He who sells with loss new goods of any standard brand in violation of a stipulated condition of the maker usually does so to create a false impression in the minds of the public. Such standard articles are therefore almost invariably sold under conditions as to price cutting. Every merchant is morally bound to either decline handling such conditioned goods or to maintain the stipulated prices which afford the legitimate profit to which he and the goods are entitled. Conditions designed to avert ruination prices should be just as binding as the conditions governing the terms of settlement, and the acceptance of the goods clearly implies acceptance of the conditions. The logical and oft-demonstrated result of the butchery of prices is almost invariably the same. The competitors of the price-wrecker in self-preservation are forced to meet the destructive competition, or even go one better, and the injured merchandise, in resentment of such maltreatment, soon and inevitably refuses any profit to any one.

"The absolute necessity and justice of a minimum selling-price scale is therefore apparent to every fair-minded merchant. It is essential for the protection of the retailer, equally with the manufacturer.

"The object of this announcement is two-fold: First, to repeat what we have made clear in the printed conditions on which ——— are sold—that we propose to have some voice in the settlement of the prices at which our product shall be marketed, and not sit quietly by if any one shall attempt to injure its standing in the mercantile community.

"Second, to make clear that we regard not only the unwarranted slaughter of ——— by any dealer, but also any act others contributing thereto, as hostility to our goods and to the best interests of our customers who seek a fair and legitimate profit. Mr. Henry Siegel, the head of the Simpson-Crawford Company, when earnestly requested by the subscriber to comply with the conditions on which he had entered, defiantly refused to do so.

"Furthermore, when then advised he could have no more ——— from us, boasted he could get them. The only way a buyer can obtain goods against the will of the seller is by subterfuge. We wish to state that if it is possible that any customer of ours would lend himself to such a scheme we shall (as in one case that has already occurred) not afford him a second opportunity to repeat the trick. We find all the customers we desire among merchants who are glad to maintain fair prices and comply with the conditions upon which our goods are sold. In fact, in addition to old friends of ———, so many new ones have appeared these last few years that our capacity has been greatly taxed in caring for their esteemed orders. We shall endeavor to protect all such, and if they have found satisfaction hitherto in handling our products, we believe they will find that satisfaction greatly increased in 1904, during the early days of which we hope to enter our new business home. There, with quarters three times as large as our present two factories combined, we look forward to carrying out some new important plans that we are confident will still further and mightily increase the merits of our lines.

"Since writing above we are just advised by a friendly customer that he has already been approached by a go-between, who wished to buy from us for a third party, all he could up to 500 dozen. He was offered 50 cents per dozen for his services. He indignantly refused to lend himself to any such transaction."

We think that the above statement sets forth clearly the diametrically opposed interests between the maker of branded goods and "the maker of death-dealing prices," i. e. the dry goods trust.

As members of the Socialist Labor Party we can score a point in our favor. Oftentime we have maintained that when the middle-class cockroaches shake their fists at the trusts for creating monopolies; they are only angry because they have not a little monopoly of their own. Here is a case where, you will readily perceive by a careful perusal of the above statement, a middle-class manufacturer grinds his teeth at the trust for trying to create competition on a commodity which he, as he claims, proposes "to have some voice in the settlement of prices."

We thought that "competition was the life of trade"! ! ! More than once have we been accused of being narrow minded, because we could not side in with one set of bosses in favor of the other. The above is only a sample of many cases of a conflict between two sets of bosses.

As you will see, just as soon as the dry goods trust will be able, and we have no doubt but what they will be, to control the branded goods, the small stores will be a thing of the past. Just watch the small stores and you will find alongside of their names on the signs of their establishments, such words as these: "We sell ——— Corsets;" "We sell ——— Collars;" "We sell ——— Shirts," etc. No small store keeper can get along without one or more labelled goods.

We might say, without fear of contradiction, that the branded goods are the backbone of the small retail dealer. Some small store keepers already realize that the Trust has at last found a way to get at them. Their days are numbered, and they know it.

Wanamaker's new mammoth establishment, and the new store on the site of the old Macy store, which is under the control of the dry goods' trust, will help to do the trick. They will keep open evenings, thusly catering to the proletariat's trade. Others will be compelled to follow their example. The working class now patronizing the small stores will shift their patronage to the larger stores, where better "values" are given and you take less chances of being cheated in some slick way. This is the real situation in the retail world and the position of the department stores. No capitalist sheet can afford to tell the truth in this matter. Neither do the commercial magazines dare to assert themselves on this question.

As to the men and women and, I may add, the children employed in these large retail stores, their condition is lower than in any other trade or calling. Children of 11 and 12 years of age, boys and girls deprived of their God-given rights to enjoy the vernal fields instead of hustling in a department store with pallid faces, driven about in a most brutal manner by an ignorant floor walker. Instead of spending their early youth in school they are found there growing up amid surroundings that poison their minds at an early age.

In most cases they are placed in a department by their folks with the intention of making a future for them. There is not a day that passes but what you can find some advertisement in the capitalist press for cash boys and girls, ostensibly only for that purpose, but in more than one case they do other and much harder work. In order to save porters' work you will quite often find them dragging a basket about the floor, picking wastes and papers; besides, they are more than once employed in carrying stock, work that ought to be done by men receiving the salary of four or five children. It is scandalous to see how people who, on the one hand, will pose as philanthropists will, on the other, stoop to such practices. Of course, they are not supposed to know anything about it. It is always the superintendent that does it.

The women employed in department stores are also maltreated. The hour of closing the store does not mean the end of a day's work for them, except in few cases. "Sales" occur often during the year; then we have seasonable trade; more in particular is December a hard month for them.

During sales stock must be straightened and assorted before they have a right to go home—this after a hard day's hustling. One can imagine what sort of mothers women will make that stand on her feet for 10 hours in succession with hardly anything to eat. Of course, the most of them will deny the fact, but I know what I have seen.

They come to work in the morning on a light breakfast. Without any exception they all have spoiled stomachs, and, consequently, cannot eat in the morning. For dinner they cannot afford to spend much, and again they eat a very light lunch. In the evening they are so exhausted that it is impossible for them to eat. Thuswise these poor unfortunate girls spend the days of their life with only one hope in their heart—that some young man will marry them and thus better their condition.

As to the men—well, they, too, are about as bad off as any ancient slave. A salesman behind the counter must forever see that his book is filled with good checks, and many of them. It might seem strange to any one not employed as clerk in a retail store to think that whether there is any trade or not a salesman is expected to have a large book, any way. A salesman behind the counter is soon informed that his book is not as large as it "ought to be," that he is "behind the next salesman," etc., they not taking into consideration that he can only sell to those that come to buy. When his customers smile he is expected to smile with them, and shed tears over their lamentations when this happens to be the case.

I know of more than one case where a salesman was discharged for not being polite enough. Comrade Sam Stoder lost his position in a department store some time ago because a certain charge customer complained against him. When he wanted to explain his explanation would not be heard.

With the exception of the clothing and silk counter men, the salary never exceeds $12. It is in nearly every case $10 and a promise of a raise. Young men

(Continued on page 6)

FACTORY WORK AS IT IS AND MIGHT BE

[Continued From Page 2.]

hold of his first gun and begin killing.

This education so begun for the child will continue for the grown man, who will have every opportunity to practice the niceties of his craft, if he be so minded, to carry it to the utmost degree of perfection, not for the purpose of using his extra knowledge and skill to sweat his fellow-workman, but for his own pleasure and honor as a good artist. Similar opportunities will be afforded him to study as deeply as the subject will bear, the science of which his craft is founded. Besides, a good library and help in studying it will be provided by every productive group (or factory), so that the worker's other voluntary work may be varied by the study of general science or literature.

But further, the factory could supply another educational want by showing the general public how its goods are made. Competition being dead and buried, no new process, no detail of improvements in machinery, would be hidden from the first requirer. The knowledge which might thus be imparted would foster a general interest in work and in the realities of life, which would surely tend to elevate labor and create a standard of excellence in manufacture, which in its turn would breed a strong motive towards exertion in the workers.

A strange contrast such a state of things would be to that now existing! For to-day the public, and especially that part of it which does not follow any manual occupation, is grossly ignorant of crafts and processes, even when they are carried on at its own doors, so that most of the middle class are not only defenseless against the most palpable adulterations, but also, which is far more serious, are of necessity whole worlds removed from any sympathy with the life of the workshop.

So managed, therefore, the factory, by co-operation with other industrial groups, will provide an education for its own workers and contribute its share to the education of citizens outside; but further, it will, as a matter of course, find it easy to provide for mere restful amusements, as it will have ample buildings for library, schoolroom, dining hall and the like; social gatherings, musical or dramatic entertainments will obviously be easy to manage under such conditions.

One pleasure—and that a more serious one—I must mention, a pleasure which is unknown at present to the workers and which even for the classes of ease and leisure only exists in a miserably corrupted and degraded form. I mean the practice of fine arts. People living under the conditions of life above mentioned, having manual skill, technical and general education, and leisure to use these advantages, are quite sure to develop a love of art—that is to say, a sense of beauty and interest in life, which, in the long run must stimulate them to the desire for artistic creation, the satisfaction of which is of all pleasures the greatest.

I have started by supposing our group of social labor busying itself in the production of bodily necessaries; but we have seen that such work will only take a small part of the workers' time as their leisure, beyond mere bodily rest and recreation, I have supposed, some would employ in perfecting themselves in the niceties of their craft, or in research as to its principles; some would stop there, others would take to studying more general knowledge, but some—and I think most—would find themselves impelled toward the creation of beauty, and would find their opportunities for this under their hands, as they worked out their due quota of necessary work for the common good; these would amuse themselves by ornamenting the wares they made, and would only be limited in the quantity and quality of such work by artistic considerations as to how much or what kind of work really suited the wares; nor, to meet a possible objection, would there be any danger of such ornamental work degenerating into mere amateur twaddle, such as is now inflicted on the world by fine ladies and gentlemen in search for a refuge from boredom; because our workers will be thoroughly educated as workers and will know well what good work and true finish (not trade finish) mean, and because the public, being a body of workers also, everyone in some line or other, will well understand what real work means. Our workers, therefore, will do their artistic work under keen criticism of themselves, their workshop comrades, and a public composed of intelligent workmen.

To add beauty to their necessary daily work will furnish outlet for the artistic aspirations of most men; but, further, our factory, which is externally beautiful, will not be inside like a clean jail or workhouse; the architecture will come inside in the form of such ornament as may be suitable to the special circumstances. Nor can I see why the highest and most intellectual art, pictures, sculpture, and the like, should not adorn a true palace of industry. People living a manly and reasonable life would have no difficulty in refraining from overdoing both these and other adornments; here then would be opportunities for using the special talents of the workers, especially in cases where the day's necessary work afforded scanty scope for artistic work.

Thus our Socialist factory, besides turning out goods useful to the community, will provide for its own workers work light in duration, and not oppressive in kind, education in childhood and youth. Series occupation, amusing relaxation, and mere rest for the leisure of the workers, and withal that beauty of surroundings, and the power of producing beauty which are sure to be claimed by those who have leisure, education and serious occupation.

No one can say that such things are not desirable for the workers; but we Socialists are striving to make them seem not only desirable, but necessary, well knowing that under the present system of society they are impossible of attainment—and why? Because we cannot afford the time, trouble, and thought necessary to obtain them. Again why cannot we? Because we are at war, class against class and man against man; all our time is taken up with that; we are forced to busy ourselves, not with the arts of peace, but with the arts of war, which are, briefly, trickery and oppression. Under such conditions of life labor can but be a terrible burden, degrading to the workers, more degrading to those who live upon their work.

This is the system which we seek to overthrow, and supplant by one in which labor will no longer be a burden.

WEEKLY PEOPLE

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SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES.

In 1888	2,068
In 1892	21,157
In 1896	36,564
In 1900	34,191
IN 1902	**53,617**

> "Society must be so organized that the welfare of one shall no longer be conducive to the detriment of others, as is now too often the case; every one ought to find his own interest indissolubly connected with that of all, and on the other hand the welfare of the community should be like a mathematical function of the welfare of the individual. As soon as we have reached this goal, the attainment of which is by no means so difficult as it is usually represented to be, every conflict between the interests of the individual and of society, that had previously sprung from motives of self-interest, must needs come to an end, and the chief causes of crime, sin, vice and wickedness must be removed at the same time."
>
> —BUCHNER.

SMALL FAVORS THANKFULLY RECEIVED, LARGE ONES IN PROPORTION.

Well for the officers of the Colorado Militia!

A well organized militia, said Jefferson, says the constitution, says everybody else of sense, is a desirable thing for THE PRESERVATION OF THE PEOPLE'S FREEDOM. Whereupon, quoting the first part of the sentence, and falsifying the second, the Republican and the Democratic press have tried to construe into treason to the nation the rising objection of intelligent workingmen to place their heads into what has become a noose—the militia—whereby to strangle the aspirations of their class and, therewith, the freedom of the people.

By degrees, and in even step with the sharpening of the class line in the country, the militia has become an effective part of the mailed glove wherewith the plundering class of capitalism has been smiting the plundered class of the workman. As a consequence of such development, the working class now finds itself wholly differentiated from the class whose hand is in the mailed glove. The capitalist plunderer holds the officerships in the militia; he orders; the workingman in the rank and file must obey, and, in obeying, may have to do what the German Emperor commended as the ideal conduct of the rank and file, to shoot down father and mother, brother and child, at command. In sight of the multiplying outrages perpetrated upon the workingmen with the aid of militias, workingmen in large numbers have begun to withdraw and others, who otherwise would have joined, stayed away from the militias.

In sight of such awakening popular intelligence, the capitalist press began to howl, the capitalist professors, politicians and pulpiteers began to thunder out anathema at such "treason to the country,"—which was natural enough,—but, and that was not so natural, many a workingman, still in the clouds of delusion and illusion, thought ill of his fellows who dropped the militia, and himself stuck to it. It is in connection with this latter manifestation that thanks are due to the officers of the Colorado militia.

Called out in Colorado to trample upon the Telluride and Cripple Creek miners, the officers of the Colorado militia have rendered a valuable service, away from the ordinary, in bringing home to the workingmen their class distinctions. Thoroughly alive to their own buccaneer class safety, the officers of the Colorado militia placed no reliance on the workingman's ignorance on the subject. They felt that such ignorance could not last. They perceived that the moment it ends, alone ends their reign of terror. Accordingly, they considered a gun in a workingman's hands as too dangerous an implement, even if over him stood a passe-carrying capitalist hierarchy of officers. Accordingly these officers have just tried a militiaman for treason, the treason being that HE HELD A UNION CARD!

Capitalism plows the field for Socialism. Without the Capitalist plowman, the Socialist sowman could not succeed. In the furrow opened by the capitalist officers of the Colorado militia through this trial of a workingman militiaman for treason, on the ground that he held a Union card—a furrow that no Socialist himself could have opened—the seed of the class distinctions between plundered workers and plundering capitalists can now be planted, and will germinate.

The favor thus conferred upon the Labor Movement by the officers of the Colorado militia is no small one, and it is thankfully received.

PANAMA IN EMBRYO, AND VICE VERSA.

Elsewhere in this issue is reproduced the account of the secret spiked police club that was introduced in this city under the Commissionaryship of Theodore Roosevelt, now President of the United States, and rough-riding the nation into war. The account is now reproduced by reason, not only of its having been frequently requested, but because it is strangely illustrative of contemporaneous events upon the international field.

The act of sending naval forces to the Isthmus with instructions to keep off Colombian forces that might come to overthrow a "revolution" that had not yet taken place, and the resorting to such an act under the pretence of safeguarding a treaty of peace and friendship with Colombia is psychologically closely connected with the mental make-up that would place so vicious a weapon as the secretly spiked-club in the hands of the Police. The one act explains the other. They are two candles to see each other by. But there is also a third. While he was Commissioner of Police and the secretly spiked club was introduced, the so-called "Ship Democracy" was a party of official standing, polling its 25,000 and odd votes in the State. As such, its rank on the official ballot was not a matter of discretion. It was entitled by law to the third place. But this did not suit Commissioner Roosevelt, and he arbitrarily ordered the Ship Democracy to the fifth place. Of course, an order was obtained against Mr. Roosevelt and he was mandamused to place the Ship Democracy in its proper ranks. The three events—Panama, Ship Democracy and secretly spiked club are kindred incidents.

"Law" means nothing to the capitalist: he is ready to violate it whenever it suits his whim or interest; "humanity" means nothing to the capitalist, under his vest beats a hyena's heart; "order" and "peace" means nothing to the capitalist, whenever his pockets crave it, he is ready to trample upon order, and throw the fagot into civilization.

"Panama" is best understood when read by the light of the fiendish spiked police-club, and of the high-handed attempt against the Ship Democracy. The former is foreshadowed by the latter two events. Inversely, the workingmen at home may all the better comprehend what the spiked police-club means to them at home by the light of the Panama refined sharp practice abroad.

A WHITENED SEPULCHRE.

"Yes, Mr. President, the honor of the nation is worth more than the property of the nation!"— These were the words with which Senator Pettus of Alabama apostrophized on December 19 the presiding officer in the Senate chamber. These are burning words, and they frame a noble, burning sentence. What was the occasion?

Was it a welling of the heart and mind in condemnation of the outrages that are being perpetrated in Colorado, where both the nation's honor and the miners' branch of the nation's sinews are being burnt upon the altar of Property—stolen property, at that?

Was the Alabama Senator calling a halt to the orders issued from Federal headquarters, whereby "boys in blue" were made to share with the Colorado militia the infamy of dishonoring the nation by outraging the Colorado miners and protecting the brigand class, which, a newest style of robber-barons, has America's Working Class, a newest style of serfs, by the throat?

No! And yet again no!—It was about Panama!

The infamy of Panama can not be palliated, or extenuated. Moved by corrupt secret springs, the giant United States has served as midwife to an opera bouffe Republic by violating the nation's plighted faith. That certainly is dishonorable. No amount of property can atone for that. But has our nation any honor to save abroad, when she is so reckless of her honor at home? Or can the Senator, who sits silent as a tomb in his seat when our honor is being dragged in the gutter at home be considered a sincere guardian of the nation's self-respect?

Indeed not! The Senators and others, who are upholding the nation's Panama sharp practice, are at least consistent. The "honor" of their class is safe provided their pockets bulge. But hypocrites are those Senators and others who by their silence endorsing the nation's dishonor at home, are seeking to wipe the platter clean without when within it is full of foulness!

WHERE WRIGHT IS WRONG

It would be far easier to point out where Carroll D. Wright is right. That's the exception. And yet, voluminous though the mass is of his errors, the gentleman just got off a brace of them that are of peculiar flavor, in point both of the light they throw upon the mental caliber of this "intellectual" and the usefulness of exposing them.

In a speech recently delivered in Philadelphia, Mr. Carroll D. Wright said:

> "I object to have Labor called a commodity for the reason, that the merchandise that the workingman has to dispose of is of a perishable nature."

Here we have no less a luminary than a "national statistician" of Labor, and everything else statistical, establishing a definition that every fruit-vendor could knock into a cocked hat. According to Mr. Wright, bananas, grapes, apples, etc., would not be merchandise. They surely are perishable. Being perishable, they are excluded from the category of merchandise by Mr. Wright's definition.

No more need be said on this head to knock of a heap the above argument by Mr. Wright. From the extremely perishable banana to the extremely endurable Bessemer steel billet, —all of which are merchandise—merchandise runs the gamut of all degrees of perishability. 'Tis not that feature of an object that makes or unmakes it a merchandise. What determines its merchandise feature is its quality to satisfy a human want. As bananas satisfy the human want of hunger, and steel billets the human want of hard instruments of production, so labor-power satisfies the want of yielding more wealth than its exchange-value costs to the purchaser. As labor-power is such a useful article in demand, it is a merchandise, whether perishable or not.

And now comes Mr. Wright's conclusion: Labor not being a merchandise, for the reason he alleges, the solution of the Labor Question, according to the gentleman, is, not Socialism, but—"profit sharing"!!

Mr. Carroll D. Wright, before starting on his anti-Socialist crusade, should have made a pact with the Steel Trust to postpone that savage reduction of from 5 to 20 per cent. on the wages of 168,000 of their stock-holding, and, therefore, "profit sharing" employes. It is a bad background to revive the "profit sharing" corpse of malodorous Dolgeville memory. But such is fate, especially the fate that pursues the praise-singers of capitalism. It ever leaves them in the lurch when they need help most, and helps to expose them.

"Profit sharing" implies the theory of peace between the purchasing capitalist and the perishable merchandise Labor. No more need be said to expose the folly. It is as legless as that about Labor not being a merchandise because perishable. The "profit sharing" between the perishable banana and the purchaser is a picture of immense convincing power.

As the owner of the perishable banana hastens at an ever declining price to find a purchaser for his perishable merchandise, so the workingman, the owner of the perishable merchandise labor-power, hustles to find a purchaser, at ever declining price,—the physical and economic reasons that move them are identical. "Profit sharing with its purchaser by the merchandise labor is identical as stop-rotting by the merchandise banana when chewed up and swallowed by its purchaser.

But why this strenuous effort on the part of Mr. Wright, an effort so strenuous that it pulls him all out of joint? For very simple reasons:

First—The gentleman knows that the real difference between the merchandise labor-power and all others is that the former is human, and that it may discover its merchandise plight, which means its inevitable decline coolie-ward, —a dangerous difference; and

Second—The gentleman knows that Labor is "getting on" to the secret.

As well might Mr. Carroll D. Wright expect to stop a moon eclipse by beating upon old kettles, as seek to stem with his rattle the tidal wave that is rising, moved by the groundswell of the Socialist-demonstrated fact that, under capitalism, Labor is but a merchandise. The gentleman could not perform the feat, nay, not if he traveled perpetually from one end of the country to the other on the Pullman pass that took him to Chicago when he went there to investigate the Pullman strike of 1894!

"THE FOREIGN TRADE MOVEMENT."

"The foreign trade movement," for the sake of which wholesale wage reductions were recently made in this country, is occupying the attention of the financial writers on the capitalist press to an unusual degree. The November statement, showing the largest exports and export balances of any month but one in the country's history, and its importance to the country in these times of industrial depression have served to give this movement prominence and to call attention to this country's position abroad. Once more one catches the familiar strains of the song of prosperity. Once more is this country to invade Europe, and once more is this country's indebtedness abroad to be cancelled and the country transformed from a debtor to a creditor nation instead.

This song ,however, is not sung with all its former recklessness and gusto. Its notes are somewhat timorous, and given forth with caution and restraint. Once before, it is recalled, at the close of 1900, to be explicit, this country was credited with a balance abroad of at least $100,000,000, yet in less than one year's time, this condition was reversed with bewildering suddenness, so much so that $300,000,000 was named as the amount of this country's indebtedness abroad. The liquidation of this immense indebtedness is held to have precipitated the depression that followed,—and still holds sway.

But this is not all. As if to further change the rendering of this prosperity song ,some facts are made public that lead to the conclusion that "the foreign trade movement" is based on conditions that are likely to react against this country. In the matter of cotton, for instance, the short crop, which was supposed to make for prosperity, it is now figured out, will eventually do just the reverse. Says a capitalist financial reviewer on this subject:

> "On the short cotton-crop theory, shipments from farm to market, just now largely above last year's, should presently fall to figures purely nominal. But this would mean that the planter's profits were over the season.
>
> "It would also mean, of course, that the American spinner would be badly 'squeezed' in getting material for manufacture, and that the cotton export trade, towards the end of the season, must fall to practically nothing. Under normal conditons, ,cotton exports, even in midsummer, should contribute six to ten million dollars monthly to our outward trade. But with a crop of 9,900,000 bales or less, our future cotton exports would normally be as much below last year's as the export in November and October were above it. This would affect international exchange."

Again, in the matter of steel billets, a merchant engaged in the European steel trade is quoted as follows:

> "Steel manufacturers in England are carrying their tongues in the side of their mouths at our attempts to increase export trade. Every time we cut the price of billets it becomes just that much harder for them to keep from laughing. They buy eagerly our cheap billets, from which their finished products are manufactured, and then undersell us on structural steel and plates. By cutting billets we create an artificial situation that reacts on us to the benefit of the English mills.
>
> "Germany does exactly the same trick, expecting to make up the loss on billets by making a stiff price on finished articles, exactly as the Americans are doing on rails. At the end of a certain period the German manufacturers pool the loss on billets and pocket the profit on other articles.
>
> "The railroad cut of 33 1-3 per cent. in export rates on steel reminds me of the Irish tradesman, who said: 'Oh, I am selling everything at a loss; but I make it up on the volume of business I am doing.'"

This "foreign trade movement" is not likley to produce a hysteria of joy in the breast of the intelligent workingman. It has already cost him a considerable loss in the form of wage reductions and unemployment, that a reaction produced by present export conditions is likely to increase. He also knows from bitter experience of a very recent date that the country's change from a debtor to a creditor basis means decreased wages, intensified labor and increased mortality for the working class.

Such a workingman is not fooled by the "foreign trade movement." He knows the only movement of benefit to him and his class is the movement to abolish capitalism in favor of Socialism—that is, the Socialist Movement. To this movement alone he pins his faith.

* * *

The appalling accident on the B. & O. R. R. at Connellsville, Pa., by which 65 persons were killed and a score of others wounded, recalls the figures on railroad accidents that appears in the seventeenth annual report of the Interstate Commission, issued last week. According to the commission "In the year ending June 30, 1903, the number of passengers killed in train accidents was 164, and of injured, 4,424; of employes killed, 895; injured, 6,440. Casualties from other causes, added to these, make totals of 321 passengers and 3,233 employes killed and 6,973 passengers and 39,004 employes injured. These numbers are larger by a considerable percentage than the corresponding numbers of the year last preceding."

As will be seen from the above the employes are the principal sufferers. They are instantly exposed to dangers and perils which beset the passengers only occasionally. Beside this they are occupied in the freight service, a branch with which the passengers have little to do.

This growing list of accidents is more than an evidence of the ruthless manner in which the owners of railroads scramble for profits, despite safety appliance laws and other supposed restrictions, as the commission pointed out. A railroad expert in an admirable series of articles, a year or two ago, made it clear that the whole trouble is due to the inefficient and incapable management of boards of directors whose only qualification for the task was that of having been successful pork packers, dry goods dealers, etc. Who are, in other words, capitalists intent on making the railroads good-paying investments regardless of the requirements of safety and life.

It goes without saying that so long as this condition of affairs prevails so long may an increase rather than a diminution of the railroad horrors now thrilling the country be established.

When Henry Ward Beecher declared the workingman could live on a dollar a day he was roundly denounced and condemned. But here comes Speaker Cannon, who intimates that even that is too much. According to a Washington dispatch, Speaker Cannon called on the President on the 21st, and as he came away from the White House he made some "philosophical" remarks to the reporters in connection with the Chicago strike.

"In every large city," said the Speaker, "there are people who do not want to work and mean to live on the efforts of others. This class may be depended upon to make trouble on every occasion. The really valuable workingman is that man who lives within his income, and, no matter how small his wages, saves just a small part unless sickness or death or unexpected misfortune come upon him. I remember that when I was a boy I saved $15 in one year out of a total of $100 wages, but I paid only $1 a week for board. It was plain board, just hog and hominy, but I was young and it furnished me with sustenance and I relished it as much as I do fancier dishes to-day."

The "philosophy" of these remarks is that the workingman lives too luxuriously and would fare better on "hog and hominy." How do the workingmen like the proposition? Are there any "really valuable" workingmen who can meet its requirements? If there are none in existence now, the cheap food experiments and the hog and hominy philosophy of the capitalists, will soon prepare the way for them.

The Governor of Colorado declares that the strikes in that state are over, especially in Cripple Creek and Telluride. At the same time the newspapers report the arrests and deportation at Telluride of two union officials, a newspaper man and twelve "union agitators." This contradiction of the Governor's statement may be merely co-incidental. It is more likely however that the Governor is spreading false reports in order to influence workingmen to flock to Colorado in search of employment and in this way actually end the strikes there. Workingmen intending to go to Colorado, would do well to look before they leap.

President Fahy of the Ninth District of the United Mine Workers of America declared the other day that his organization has succeeded in having the miners' wages increased 33 per cent. since 1900, and he then followed this statement by bemoaning the fact that "there are many men who are now taking no interest in the organization and who are behind in their dues."

There must be something wrong with that increase or those men. Practical man does not abandon an organization that pays so well. The trouble is that that 33 per cent. increase is merely nominal. It is offset by higher rent, powder and store charges, railroad fares, etc., exacted by the coal corporations. These leave the miners' wages the same or lower than before. Can any one blame the miners for not adding high dues to their burdens?

THE FROGS AND THE BULL

It must be matter of amusement, to some, of encouragement, to others, of instruction to all, to watch the frog of the Socialist, alias Social Democratic party straining to look like and to imitate the bull of the Socialist Labor Party.

More than once it has been documentarily shown in these columns that the speakers of the above alias, together with their press, pirate wholesale the literature of the S. L. P. Within the last few months, however, a bunch of instances has occurred that looks like a capping of the climax.

During the campaign, the Social Democratic alias Socialist party of Jamestown, New York, advertised a meeting of theirs in the "Morning Post" of that city, of October 29, as a "Socialist Labor Party rally."—The "Morning Post" of that date is in this office for inspection.

The following month, the Newport News, Va., organization of the same alias concern advertised a rally of their party for November 16 by means of hand-bills, that bore very much at the top and in large type the legend "SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY," and omitting all mention of their own party name.—The document is in this office for inspection.

But there is worse, or funnier, or more instructive, coming. The "Chicago Socialist" of December 5, contains an article lifted "en bloc" from Socialist Labor Party literature; and so reckless, and so brainless was the plagiarist that he copied even the sentence: "The Socialist Labor Party can not afford to waste its energies,"—a sentence with which the S. L. P. article clinched the point of the futility of the "One thing at a time" theory, which, among other beauty spots, embellishes the grotesque physiognomy of the very so-called Socialist party of which the said "Chicago Socialist" is an organ.—The "Chicago Socialist" of that date is in this office for inspection.

Fourthly, on Sunday, December 20, a unique meeting of the said alias concern was held in this city on the subject of the late A. F. of L. convention, from which the alias concern just came off sadly bedrabbled.

As is well known, the S. L. P. maintains and proves that the Gompers pure and simple organization, whose officers are well termed "scab-herders" by the "American Labor Union Journal," can not be redeemed by simply "boring from within," and that to there "bore from within" only is equivalent to lying low and pulling the legs of the fakirs. The S. L. P. has proven that the only effect of "boring from within," if honestly done, is to land the borers on the outside, thrown there by the fakirs with the aid of the employer class, whose lieutenants the fakirs are. The long and short of the story is that, at the same time that some should continue to firmly "bore from within," a new and bona fide labor organization must be set up, to lambaste the fakir from without. That is the S. L. P. position, and that is the very position that has earned for the S. L. P. the badge of honor of being called "scab" by the scurvy Socialist, alias Social Democratic party lieutenants of the "scab-herding" A. F. of L. officialdom, which latter, in its turn, is the lieutenant of the capitalist class. And that is the way it had to be: the attitude of the S. L. P. is the attitude of men, too intelligent to be trepanned, too characterful to act as buffers and lieutenants of Gompersdom; on the other hand, the attitude of the alias concern, which, dominated by the Volkszeitung that cannot do "peesiness" without subsidy from the fakirs, was typical of that morally, intellectually, and physically spineless set. And now, lo and behold the frogs threatening to do, what?—the very thing that the S. L. P. has done, and is doing, and alone can do because it is not subsidized and, therefore, dominated by any outside concern; accordingly, the very thing which, owing to its frog-constitution, requirements and narrow limitations, the Volkszeitung corporation's crew has no more power to do than the slimy, craven, and silly frog can reach the stature of the well-knit, bold, and powerful bull.—The report of that alias concern's meeting is found in the Volkszeitung of December 21, and is in this office for inspection.

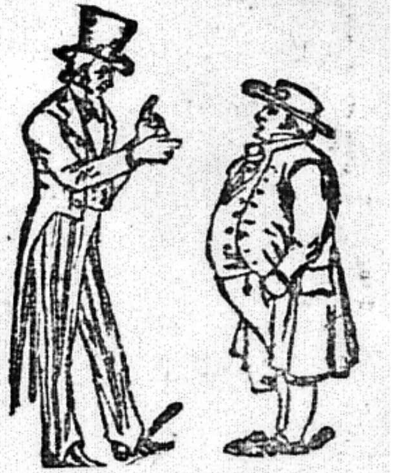
* * *

The other day Judge Shafer of Pittsburgh declared unconstitutional the law prohibiting the employment of boys in the mines. This is to be followed up by attacks on the laws establishing a home for miners and doubling the number of State mine inspectors. These laws were passed by the last Pennsylvania legislature, during the excitement attending the great strike. Judging from the history of labor laws in Pennsylvania they will undergo the untimely fate of their predecessors.

It is now up to the bituminous miners. The wage reductions in Central Pennsylvania are to be bitterly fought. The leaders of the miners' organization realize that success on the part of the operators there will mean disaster for them in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and elsewhere. Failure in the bituminous districts will also mean defeat in the anthracite region in 1905. It is a fight that will be watched with interest.

Canada is now feeling the effects of the cotton shortage in this country. One touch of capitalism makes the whole economic world akin.

The New Year is here. Begin it with a determination to advance the S. L. P.



UNCLE SAM AND BROTHER JONATHAN.

BROTHER JONATHAN — I have been reading up on the class struggle.

UNCLE SAM—That's good.

B. J.—But I find it is too narrow.

U. S.—How would you broaden it?

B. J.—The strict class struggle draws the line between wage earners and capitalists.

U. S.—Correct.

B. J.—I don't think that's right or sound. The line should be drawn between the toilers and the non-toilers.

U. S.—For instance?

B. J.—The clerk of a groceryman is a toiler, but the groceryman himself toils also. Under the strict principle of the class struggle, the line is drawn between the two, placing the clerk on one side with other workers, and the toiling groceryman on the other, and together with the Depews, Vanderbilts, Goulds, Count Castellane, etc. Now that is all wrong—

U. S.—How would you fix it?

B. J.—I would place the toiling groceryman on the same side of the line with all other toilers, whether wage earners or not, and on the other side the idlers and spongers.

U. S.—If you did so you would pretty soon get all mixed up; just as mixed as if you placed the strawberry and the daisy in the same botanical family. The two grow close to the ground, etc., yet they belong to two wholly distinct families. Again, the strawberry grows on a lowly bush, the apple on a stately tree; upon your principle of classifying the toiling groceryman separately from the Vanderbilts, you would put the strawberry and the apple in different families; fact is that they are of one and the same family.

B. J.—You don't say so!

U. S.—Yes. The mouse is a little animal, the elephant a big one; you would classify them separately, yet the fact is that the elephant and the mouse are one family.

B. J. (with increased astonishment)—Yes?

U. S.—Yes. What determines the kinship between plants and animals is, not appearance, but some fundamental fact that typifies them. Now, the fundamental fact that typifies the toiling small groceryman is not his toiling; other people toil with whom you would not rank the toiling groceryman: pickpockets toil, and toil hard; stock brokers toil, and toil hard. The fundamental fact that typifies the toiling groceryman is that he is in possession of property, whereby he can, and does, just as the big capitalist, squeeze labor out of another human being; and the typifying feature of the groceryman's clerk is that, being stripped of all property whereby to earn his own living, he is bound to sell himself to the man who has such property. It is upon those lines that the economic classes are separated. To blur that line is to open the doors for all sorts of false steps; hence so many "reform" parties that jump up and collapse.

B. J.—Yes, yes; and yet it seems to me that the groceryman has a hard time of it.

U. S.—No doubt; and yet no harder than many a pirate who, being caught, was hanged to the yardarms of his own ship. If the groceryman has sense—and what is said of him is said of the whole middle class—he would simply throw in his lot with the proletariat, but to do that he must accept proletarian economics, instead of doing what the middle class now try to do, to join the proletariat by forcing upon it middle class economics—"coal planks a la Democratic party," "public ownership of public utilities," etc. Only then is there help for the sinking middle class.

B. J.—H'm! I now see it in another light. This middle class want to lie together with the proletariat, provided the proletariat is willing to lie inside the stomach of the middle class. Eh?

U. S.—You got it now.

* * *

"Uncle Sam" under capitalism is as much an exploiter of labor as is the private employers who direct his affairs. This is apparent in the overtime work without extra pay imposed on the employes of the post office department during the holidays. Such action is only paralleled by that of the large department stores, who compel their employes to perform extra labor without extra remuneration. Still there are many innocents who believe that whatever "Uncle Sam" does is Socialism. Such a delusion should be dispelled. Socialism is primarily in the interests of the workers. "Uncle Sam" is run especially in the interests of the capitalists who control the government which he personifies.

CORRESPONDENCE

[CORRESPONDENTS WHO PREFER TO APPEAR IN PRINT UNDER AN ASSUMED NAME WILL ATTACH SUCH NAME TO THEIR COMMUNICATIONS, BESIDE THEIR OWN SIGNATURE AND ADDRESS. NONE OTHER WILL BE RECOGNIZED.]

MORE EVIDENCE FOR THE COLORADO MINERS.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Having seen the article on "The Colorado Coal Mine Strike" in The Weekly People of December 5th, I wish to furnish some more evidence on that head, and also noting the denial of the Colorado miners to Comrade Brimble's statement that coal would be sent from Illinois to supply the markets affected by their strike, and their statement that the Illinois miners would lay down their tools if such were the case, I will see how this evidence corresponds with said denial and statement.

I will now quote from the agreement between the Illinois Coal Operators' Association and the United Mine Workers of Illinois, for the scale year beginning April 1, 1903, adopted at Springfield, Ill., March 7, 1903.

"Third. Any operator paying the scale rate of mining and day (labor under this agreement shall at all times be at liberty to load any railroad cars whatever, regardless of the owenship, with coal, and sell and deliver such coal in any market and to any person, firm or corporation that he may desire."

Not only have the operators the right to do this, but they have also reserved the right to hire and discharge whom they may, a right which even puts our pit committeemen in such a position that they cannot stay if they do not serve the operator's interests only.

I will send a copy of said agreement as the editor may analyze it in full if he wishes. It is as rotten as anything can be.

If the Colorado miners want more evidence, here it is: All the cars we have loaded for two weeks have been Western cars. Here are some of the names and numbers: "Mo. Pacific, No. 26390; Chicago and Northwestern, No. 79808; St. Louis S. W., No. 14274, 21602 and 4370, all box cars.

Now, Mr. Miner, if you don't catch these cars let me know, and I can furnish you with numbers from time to time until you do; and I know the comrades of others places will do the same thing, for we know the coal must reach the markets affected by your strike.

Investigate and keep on investigating and you will find that you belong in the ranks of the S. L. P. and the S. T. and L. A. if you are honest to yourselves and class. Yours for honesty,

John Mac[illegible]

Du[illegible], Ill., Dec. 16.

Note.—The agreement referred to above is on file in this office for inspection and future reference and use. It is signed on behalf of the United Mine Workers of America, District No. 12, by W. R. Russell, president; T. J. Reynolds, vice-president; and W. D. Ryan, secretary-treasurer; on behalf of the Illinois Coal Operators' Association, by O. L. Garrison, president, and E. T. Bent, secretary.—Editor The People.

MORGAN'S NEW YEAR'S GIFT.

To The Daily and Weekly People:—All Wall Street is asking what J. Pierpont Morgan is going to give the employes of his firm as a New Year's gift. Last year every one connected with the famous banking house was presented with a year's salary—the range being from $500 in the case of office runners to $10,000, which was paid his two private secretaries—besides which all received a tip to put not alone the present just given them but all the money they could get in United States Steel shares. The stock was selling at 40 for the common and at 83 for the preferred. Since that time they have declined to 10 and 50 respectively.

Now the sharps in the financial district figure—that instead of Morgan giving his employes 100 per cent. they have given him more than that amount. Why, how can one figure that out, asks the novice in the art of "high finance?" It is simple!

Morgan sold the steel shares to them direct. Great are the ways of "our" later day kings of industry, says the looker-on in Mammon's realm. Claudius.

New York, Dec. 22, 1903.

THE TACTICS OF PURE AND SIMPLE UNIONS.

To The Daily and Weekly People:—I am a member of a pure and simple trade union, also an officer of the same. For this reason I cannot become a member of the S. L. P. and the S. T. & L. A., but I am convinced that the tactics of the S. L. P. and S. T. & L. A. are correct and beneficial for the working class. The following will show the cause of my convictions:

At the last meeting of the Arbitration Board the Housesmiths' Union No. 2 conceded every point which the Iron League proposed, i. e., to take in all the members of the new organization (the Sheet and Metal Workers), organized by the League, and to give up all the agreements existing between No. 2 and the employers. After discusion on this question a committee was appointed to effect an understanding.

Here is another case: President Buhr, of the Amalgamated Painters, proposed to organize a new Board of Building Trades, in order to do away with the arbitration scheme, as they were being [illegible] by the same.

What strikes me as very queer is that this same gentleman, Buhr, was the very first man who was in favor of the arbitration plan. He most likely thought at that time that the Brotherhood of Painters would not sign the arbitration plan, so that the Amalgamated could scab on the Brotherhood shops.

The above are fair samples of the inner workings of organized scabbery, with the Kangaroos on top. I should very much like to see them exposed in The People, in order to show the working class the misleading of the labor fakirs.

I remain, yours for Socialism as advocated by the S. T. & L. A. and the S. L. P. A Sympathizer.

N. Y., Dec. 22.

SELF-RELIANT LOCAL ALLIANCE 407

To The Daily and Weekly People:—Local Alliance 407, S. T. & L. A., held another agitation meeting Sunday, December 20. We had received a letter stating that a speaker from out of town would address the meeting. When the time came to call the meeting the speaker failed to appear. We did not allow a little thing like that to bother us. Comrade Dana took the floor and gave a good talk, followed by Comrade Smith and others.

To-night we held our regular meeting, and the order of business was gone through with Comrade Farrel in the chair.

We are going to have a smoke talk at our headquarters next Saturday evening, when songs and recitations by Comrades Buckley and Dana will be on the programme.

Business has beeen so dull here that it is a hard rub to us. I suppose it is all for the best, as it will show what kind of mettle our men are made of.

We expect to see Comrade William Carroll in Lowell some time this month. He will probably be here for Christmas.

Local Alliance 407, S. T. & L. A., wishes The Daily and Weekly People a merry Christmas. Robert Smith.

Lowell, Mass., Dec. 21.

WHAT MULHOLLAND FEARED.

To The Daily and Weekly People:—At the last convention of the American Federation of Labor, held recently at Boston, Mass., different international unions asked for the revoking of the charter of the Metalworkers' International Union, on the ground that said union tries to organize men which by right belongs to them. In this organi[illegible] [illegible] are also the Allied Metal Me[illegible] whose president is the notorious Mulholland.

This organization held last week a so-called constitutional convention at Toledo, at which convention different delegates from Dayton, O., were present. Mulholland, knowing that these delegates had something in store for him, published in the leading Democratic and Republican papers of Toledo articles warning all delegates to the convention to keep away from the delegates from Dayton, as they had plenty of money from the capitalist manufacturers for the purpose of defeating him in the election. But the real cat was let out of the bag. It was not the money he feared, but the copy of an agreement made between Mr. Mulholland and a cash register company in Columbus, O., signed on the one hand by said Mr. Mulholland and on the other by said cash register company, and dated December 3, 1900.

In said agreement, Mr. Mulholland is named, as the president of the Allied Metal Mechanics, to receive $100 a month for a period of two years from said company for pushing the gooods of said company; and, further, that this agreement should stand for one year longer if the parties therein named so wish; and, further, should Mr. Mulholland not be re-elected, or should be forced out of the presidency of the Allied Metal Mechanics, he should receive $1,000 a year as long as this agreement stands in force. Besides the above-named sums, he should receive a fair compensation for expenses. B. S. F.

Chicago, Ill., Dec. 19.

A. F. OF L. CONVENTION AFFECTS "SOCIALIST" SPEAKER'S DIGESTION.

To Daily and Weekly People—As I entered a car going home from school I saw a large slender man drop one of several cards which he had, advertising a "Grand 'Socialist' Rally," to be addressed by Dr. Howard Gibbs. I picked it up and, looking it over, I saw advertised on the other side a cockroach capitalist (one of those $300 kind).

I took the card to the section meeting where it was exhibited, and when the time for the "rally" came, ten of our comrades went to hear Dr. Howard Gibbs. There were plenty of leaflets, "The Difference" at hand. These were distributed at the beginning of the "rally." Two comrades also stationed themselves at the door and gave out leaflets there. In all, excepting our comrades, there were an audience of forty-five at the "rally."

In his speech the Doctor never mentioned the Trades Union Movement. He probably got more than this stomach could digest at the Boston A. F. of L. convention. A collection was taken up but the "socialists" forgot to state the amount, probably because they were too interested in sharing its benefits.

When they saw our leaflet they looked quite exhausted.

O Kangaroo! O Kangaroo!
We won't do a thing to you,
A pair of wings you'd better get—
Take an umbrella, you may get wet—
And then fly high up in the blue,
For the Arm and Hammer is whaling
you. C. A. B.

Hartford, Conn., Dec. 18.

PIERSON IN WACO, HOUSTON AND GALVESTON.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—In respect to the nine days' work just ended in Waco and Houston, will say I succeeded in getting 52 subs. to the Weekly People, 2 to the Monthly and 3 to the German organ. I found Waco all worked up over the late street car strike, in which one of the strike-breakers lost his life, and on account of the hostility against public agitators, I concluded it would be best not to hold any street meetings during my stay there.

In Houston I held four very successful meetings, selling 32 books and distributing a good quantity of leaflets. The Italian comrades were out in full force at every meeting, and assisted me in the distribution of literature.

Mr. Bacus, member of the so-called Socialist Party, spoke off the same stand with me at the last two meetings. He made no reference to his party during his talk, and made no defense after I had explained to the crowd the scabby and crooked actions of the S. P. since its organization.

I noticed in The People of last week the statements made against me by Kangaroo Collins. He says that the workingmen of Chicago and Quincy were thoroughly disgusted with me, and that I am killing the S. L. P.; that I have an iron gall as a solicitor, and that it was I that showed the white feather, instead of himself, while in Peoria.

Now, as far as the workingmen being disgusted with me is concerned, it is just the other way. Some other workingmen and I had the misery of hearing Collins just once in Peoria, and once was enough. If he could have heard the opinion these men held of him, after they had heard his rot and ranting, he would hie himself back to the woods, where he came from. I have never claimed to be a good speaker, but I am doing the very best I can; and to prove that my work has been appreciated by the working class, I have only to refer to the large number of books sold at the meetings I held during the past year. I would like to ask this clownish Kangaroo if this looks as if the workingmen were disgusted?

Comrade Koch, of Section Peoria, is the man who challenged Collins to debate on "The Difference." He accepted the challenge, and the meeting was arranged between them to be held on a Thursday night, corner of Cedar and Adams streets. Did Collins show up at that meeting? No; he crawfished, and when asked by one of the comrades why he did not come, stated that he did not care to have anything to do with us. Such are the actions of a born grafter.

Fraternally yours,
Charles Pierson.

Galveston, Tex., Dec. 16, 1903.

YOU BET IT DOES!

To The Daily and Weekly People:—It must be extremely harrowing to the enemies of The People when casting their eyes down the correspondence columns to note the energy now being used to sharpen its teeth for effective work next year. How harrowing it is, such slang as "dead S. L. P.," "De Leon's paper," "De Leon's old Socialist Labor Party fools," appearing in the bogus Socialist papers, eloquently testifies.

Enclosed find two contributions, amounting to $3.50, for the Homestretch Fund. E. E. Ronner.

San Jose, Cal., Dec. 14, 1903.

THE RIGHT METHOD.

To The Daily and Weekly People:—I have been voting the only Socialist ticket in the precinct, and am lonesome, so I want to work up as many votes for next election as possible. I know no better way than by gettting men to read your papers, The Daily, Weekly and Monthly People. Yours truly,

L. H. Lavelle.

Streeter, Texas, Dec. 14, 1903.

THE HOMESTRETCH FUND.

To The Daily and Weekly People:—Seeing that an effort is being made to pay off the debt on the plant of the party press, by means of The Homestretch Fund, I send one dollar to the above fund. I am hard up enough, but I want to see the paper kept running free of debt at all hazards, so that, with the debt wiped out, the papers will be able to be used with more telling effect among the enemies of labor in the future, by allowing the managers of the only bona fide Socialist labor press of America, owned by the S. L. P., more time to develop it and extend its influence.

Frank D. Tebbetts.

Rollingsford, N. H., Dec. 22.

"WOMAN UNDER SOCIALISM."

I.

To The Daily and Weekly People:—Finishing reading the English translation of Bebel's "Woman Under Socialism," which has just closed in your columns, I wish to thank you for the work, which has afforded me more information and satisfaction upon the subject than can be obtained from any other source known to me. This opinion will be concurred in by every lawyer in America who may read it. To their careful attention I commend it.

In this translation you have aided the reading and thinking public in the study of true Socialism. You have contributed to American literature a "Vade mecum" on an economic question now commanding the attention of the best minds of all nations. C. C. Pomeroy.

Columbus, O., Dec. 20, 1903

II.

To The Daily and Weekly People:—Enclosed please find one dollar payment in advance for a copy of the English translation of Bebel's "Woman Under Socialism," by Daniel De Leon. Although translated by that veritable "fiend incarnate"(?), it is a book that should be read by every intelligent workingman.

G. S. Maves.

Toronto, Can., Dec. 21

AS TO BOSSISM AND PRIVATELY OWNED PAPERS—A CHAPTER FROM RECENT EVENTS

(Upon request, the article below, from the Chicago Socialist of October 31 last, a few weeks ago alluded to, is here reproduced in full.)

APPEAL EMPLOYEES ON STRIKE.

Girard, Kan., Oct. 24, 1903.

T. K. Bates, Manager Chicago Socialist:

Dear Comrade: Yesterday at 11.30 the entire force, some fifty employees, walked out of the Appeal to Reason office. The reason was based upon demands made by the editorial staff that certain wrong practices and fierce exploitation of employees should cease. When J. A. Wayland absolutely refused to concede the justice of our demands, the resignation of the entire staff was at once placed in his hands. Each one immediately called for his time and quit work instanter.

A little over a week ago a Federal Labor Union, No. 11,478, was formed. This union by resolution declared that it would stand by and sustain the staff in their demands. When the employees learned that our demands had been turned down, with one accord, they donned their street garments, demanded their time, and walked out. At 1.30 p. m. a meeting or the union was held and a committee appointed to wait on J. A. Wayland. The committee reported that Wayland was without knowledge as to the reason of the walkout of all the employees save the staff. Another committee waited on him, and he was officially informed of the union's position—demanded the discharge of C. D. Bevans and W. F. Phelps, and thorough unionization of the office and the signing of a scale of wages in keeping with decency and a living wage for the employees.

He declared himself as utterly opposed to all our demands save the unionization, and thus the afternoon closed. In the evening session a proposition was received from J. A. Wayland, offering old positions to part of the force, also informing us that W. F. Phelps had resigned, that he had appointed his son, John G. Wayland, business manager, and C. D. Bevans as foreman, he declared that all could return to work save Ricker, Breckon, Brewer, Mason and Grant.

At a session of the union held this morning the union answered the communication of Wayland and refused to consider his proposition and reiterated its former demand and declaring that it would no more stand for John G. Wayland than W. F. Phelps.

In brief, our demands have in them a thorough reorganization of the office and that the prevailing sweatshop practices and terrific exploitation of employees shall cease; that czarism of J. A. Wayland shall end; that espionage of C. D. Bevans and his scab-like performances shall cease. The charge against W. F. Phelps was improper conduct to the lady employees and drunkenness.

The demands cover the principle of making the Appeal office a thorough clean and honest place, and what the paper teaches in its columns it shall practice in the office—that the deception heretofore practiced, by which a great many of the employees were giving financial support to the paper, shall forever come to an end.

We have discovered that the use of the union label in the office was but a fiction, and that men and women were made to "walk the plank" at the whim of J. A. Wayland, and that the great majority of employees received but $3 per week, and in many cases have been fined if they dared to ask for more.

Against all these practices we have entered our most emphatic protest and the members of the union are standing like a stone wall for the entire proposition.

The employees are all poor and depend upon their meagre earnings for a livelihood. Means must at once be found to care for the most needy. We are doubling up in houses to save expense and go on short rations. Our funds are very limited. We believe the battle we are fighting a most important one. It means the discontinuance of the Appeal to Reason or a thorough reorganization of the paper that shall put it and its practices four-square to the world. It is a fight to the finish. It may mean hungry stomachs and supperless to bed, but let it mean the worst, it declares that the Appeal shall be right or that it shall not exist.

I would suggest that this letter be submitted to local Chicago, but not published in a paper, providing matter should be justified before day of publication. Will wire you in that event. We are now about to offer the matter to arbitration by the National Committee of the Socialist Party. There is no question of our ability to make good, but there is a question of how we can make a proper fight without some outside help. A full report of this whole matter will be placed in Commissioner Mailley's hands, and the party shall thus come to a full knowledge and history of the case.

We are fighting a terrific battle for the principle of Socialism and to forever shut off the grafter and grafting. Whatever you do, do quickly. By the time this reaches you our case will have become very serious.

We shall appeal to the local citizens. They are up in arms. Wayland declares he will suspend the paper, which would junk the whole shop, and also default on 200,000 subscriptions, or $25,000. We declare this to be a deception and a move to get us out of town, and then commence republication with the same old tactics and bare-faced deception.

LETTER-BOX

OFF-HAND ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS

[NO QUESTIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED THAT COME IN ANONYMOUS LETTERS. ALL LETTERS MUST CARRY A BONA FIDE SIGNATURE AND ADDRESS.]

S. C., NEW YORK—Theoretical articles are only for the few. Only these have time and mind to sit down to such articles. But theory is needed. How convey it to the masses, who alone can carry the movement to success? There is but one way—weave the theory into the events of the day. That is a much more difficult task than to reel out, or refine upon theory. It implies a thorough grasp of the theory, so thorough as to perceive its various manifestations in running events. Eschew the theorist, he is intellectually indolent. Purely theoretical articles must be few in a Socialist journal of agitation, education and organization.

N. O. T., BROOKLYN, N. Y.—This it is in a nutshell: The Volkszeitung Corporation wants and needs the State Committee of its Social Democratic party in this city. In that way it can keep its thumb on the party. Others, some in this city and many outside and in the State, feel the gall of the Volkszeitung yoke and the disgrace of being stock for Volkszeitung trade. These are trying to remove the Committee to Rochester and demanded a general vote on the question, which is now being taken. Thereupon the Volkszeitung got its employes and retainers to get up an alleged general meeting. The meeting was a trumped up affair of Kangaroo July 10 style, wholly unconstitutional. Being run by this element, the alleged general meeting resoluted against Rochester. The resolutions of protest that are now appearing are against that illegal and high handed proceeding. That's what the turmoil means. It is, "mutatis mutandi," a repetition of the late performance by which the Corporation stamped out of existence the English paper that some members started independent of the Corporation, moved thereto to the suppression and falsification of their party's local news by the Volkzeitung and the English poodle.

D. J., NEW YORK—Thou seest spooks. (1) The S. L. P. will not come off the ballot. (2) Even if it did so next November—and how long have you, because you seem to be of that crowd, been chasing that will-o'-the-wisp expectation?—, you will see the S. L. P., under its own honored emblem and name, after as before, at each election on the official ballot. The S. L. P. is immortal—until capitalism shall be overthrown.

A. I., BROOKLYN, N. Y.—"Il Proletario" does not uphold the S. L. P. ticket, nor the S. T. & L. A. As to the latter, the paper stands with the fakirs, and sent congratulatory telegrams to Gompers at the late A. F. of L. convention in Boston. No more facts are needed to pronounce the paper a non-S. L. P. affair. The S. L. P. press is owned and controlled by the S. L. P. Its editors must adjust themselves to the Party's declarations. The editors of the S. L. P. are its servants, not its masters with power to change the Party's policy and tactics.

A. P., OMAHA, NEB.—Why, yes. At that Philadelphia G. A. of the K. of L., the supporters of Powderly tried to secure his escape by raising the cry of "Socialists!" against the delegates who wanted him removed for the misappropriation of the funds collected for the Homestead and Coeur d'Alene strikers. One, a Kansas worthy, even went so far as to yell "Anarchists!" "Weeping Charley," alias Charles Martin, was of that bunch.

D. C., SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH—The Renner letter, in that very issue of The Weekly People, covers the point. These so-called Socialist party gentry talk "harmony" in the same breath that they calumniate the S. L. P. officers, and when their calumnies are nailed, and their own corrupt conduct is exposed, they yell "murder!" The prerequisite for harmony is the self-respect of the harmonizers. Now, then, people who do not rise in their might and mop the earth with these flannelmouthed mudslinging Socialist party editors and "field workers" can not be self-respecting.

D. J., NEW YORK.—The S. L. P. does not need to brand the Kangaroos as scabs. They are doing that among themselves quite enough.

"STUDENT", ROCHESTER, N. Y.—If labor is not a merchandise, what is the sense of the term "labor market"? Did you ever hear of a market of things that are not merchandise?

T. A. T., CINCINNATI, O.—"Domineering"? "The S. L. P. is domineering"? That's what you hear people say? Quite likely they do. But scratch these people. You will find that by "domineering" they mean a resolute refusal to accept the theory that two plus two equals three. Middle class interests, taxation issues, "tart criticisms" are not Socialist education. The S. L. P. "domineeringly" refuses and will refuse for aye to bend to such folly.

T. C., DENVER, COLO.—Whenever The People clips from a paper, it gives full credit, by mentioning the name of the paper clipped from and place of publication.

N. B., NEW YORK—(1) As above to N. O. T., Brooklyn. (2) The Volkszeitung's conduct in the matter of the State Committee is but another illustration of privately owned Socialist papers. Apart from that illegal general meeting that it engineered against Rochester, its editorial order to vote against Rochester was a bizarre action for the "organ of a party" that is taking a general vote. (3) The Social Democratic party is a vest-pocket part. It is kept in the Corporation's vest pocket.

D. A. J., MUNCIE, IND.—The Panama distance is 18 miles. The Nicaragua distance about three times as long. On the other hand, the Panama canal is a thousandfold more difficult problem than the Nicaragua canal would be. If at all possible, it will cost many more millions and much longer time to build.

"EXCAVATOR," NEW HAVEN, CT.—(1) As just above. (2) The present Panama scheme is fixed so that it implies the purchase of the valueless Panama Canal franchise and works for $40,000,000. There are $40,000,000 dumped into the sea to start with. There would be no Panama Canal treaty if this plan and fraud were not at the bottom.

S. M., MILWAUKEE, WIS.—No intelligent man speaks of "over-population," any more than of "over-production." The two are terms that insinuate a false idea. There can be no bona fide talk of "over-production" so long as millions are in want of the alleged superfluous goods: what there is is a "corner" of plunder, with the plundered out in the cold, and the magnitude of the alleged over-production is but a barometer of the magnitude of the plunder and of the depth of the misery of the plundered. So with over-population. There can be no bona fide talk of over-population when both space and goods are abundant: what there is is a "corner of both space and goods, and the magnitude of the alleged over-population is but a barometer of the magnitude of the "corner," and of the depth of the misery of the alleged excess of population.

As an abstract theory, the question of "over-population" is as idle as that of the eventual bankruptcy of sun rays. Even more so.

The whole matter is quite well treated in Bebel's "Woman Under Socialism," now going through the press of the Labor News Company. Get it.

"READER", COUNCIL BLUFFS, IA.—Just make a note of this: You will live to see the day when "the National Secretary" of the so-called Socialist party, will be back to the state of a fellowshipee, and issuing letters to the remaining faithful, like "the National Secretary" of the Populist party is now doing, inviting them to a conference on some mountain peak "to consider where they are at."

D. R. D., CLEVELAND, O.—The fire in this building started in the flooring and ceiling that separates the office of the National Secretary and the editorial room of The People, the former being just above the latter. Quite a place to destroy, eh? There is no suspicion of "human rats", not because there are none of these, but because of the difficulty of their penetrating to the spot unseen. The fire-marshal's theory is probably true. No serious damage was done. But both offices were greatly incommoded and are yet.

"GERMAN", HOBOKEN, N. Y.—The date of the Volkszeitung containing the passage: "As to the Irish they are corrupt to the marrow", and endorsed with the editorial superscription: "What must be must be" is last November 15, column 1, page 9. You will not now be able to get a copy for love or money. They have shut down on it. You can see it in this office.

J. A. R., SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.—(1) Letter received. (2) About a month ago two snap-shots of the editorial rooms were mailed to you. Have they miscarried?

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN—Information is asked for on one Dan Griffis. Is he now alderman at Victor, Colo.? Was he elected on the Republican ticket while a member of the so-called Socialist party? What was his record at the settlement of the Cripple Creek miners' strike last March or April.

T. H., NEW YORK—Of course, it was a typographical mistake. The proofreader blundered doubly. The title of the French work, an English translation of which in serial form is to start next week in The People, is "The Pilgrim's Shell or Fergan the Quarryman," the author is Eugene Sue.

T. D. O., NEW YORK—Carey's vote in Haverhill last November was 678. That's all.

B. J. M., PROVIDENCE, R. I.—If the letter was given and you have it no more, it must have been mislaid with traveling. Could you repeat the specific points inquired on? If you have the letter, send copy. Would not like to answer the questions upon vague memory.

B. S., HOBOKEN, N. J.—Of the languages we know of, English has the richest vocabulary. As to which language is the richest, that depends upon wealth of idioms. In this respect also we think English leads.

J. W. S., CHICAGO, ILL.—W. S. Dalton did not leave the S. L. P. The gentleman was expelled because he sued the Party for alleged back wages, for which he was not entitled in equity, the wage basis on which he sued having been purely nominally established, and far above what he ever earned or turned out to be worth.

G. A. B., ALLEGHENY, PA.—The excuses of Mr. Boudin, alias Boudjianoff, are intended for the consumption of Timbooctooers. A notary public must himself sign his name. Clerks in law-offices may acknowledge the receipt of papers with their employer's signature; not so, however, when the signature of the employer is asked as notary public. For another to sign the notary's name as notary is a penal offence. The excuse is as fishy as this Social Democrat himself. But that's the way these gentlemen act. One of the ilk, Moses Hilkowitz, alias Morris Hilquit, you will remember during the Kangaroo fight, acting as a lawyer for these gentlemen when they sought to steal the S. L. P. name and emblem, actually presented to the Courts 32 affidavits to the correctness of an affidavit that, as his own papers showed, was not then in existence! Of course, the Court fired his bogus affidavits at his pin-head—metaphorically speaking. As Boudjianoff now, he called it a "technical mistake." That shows what reliance can be placed upon these worthies.

Other questions later.

P., TROY, N. Y.—Do you not remember that the speaker distinctly said that a school for editors had been planned by Pulitzer of the "World", and that that was an evidence of the false notions capitalists had regarding journalism? No such school has been established by Socialists.

G. O., NEW YORK—Please call at office.

R. P. R., DENVER, COLO.; J. D., NEW YORK; T. A. A., CHICAGO, ILL.; A. B., BUTTE, MONT.; S., DES MOINES, IA.; F. D. T., DOVER, N. H.; J. H.; J. J. D, OLNEYVILLE, R. I.; J. C., SONORA, MEX.; A. H., BROOKLYN, N. Y.; J. C. N., PROVIDENCE, R. I.—Matter and letter received.

SPECIAL—MASSACHUSETTS S. L. P.

To the Members of the S. L. P. of Massachusetts:

By vote of the Massachusetts S. E. C. of the S. L. P., the members of the Socialist Labor Party throughout the State are called to meet in conference, at 1165 Tremont street, Boston, on Saturday, January 2, 1904, at 8 p. m., for the purpose of organizing the State Committee (legal) of 1904.

Section which cannot be represented will see to it that a complete list of all members who are citizens of the State and members in good standing of the Party on January 1, 1904, are sent to the undersigned before January 2, 1904.

This must be complied with.

For the Massachusetts S. L. P.,
Michael T. Berry, Secretary,
99½ Chestnut street, Lynn, Mass.

THE CORREGAN APPEAL FUND.

Henry Grimberger, Bridgeport, Conn.	$1.00
H. A. Schoeps, Union Hill, N. J.	1.00
5th A. D., Brooklyn, N. Y., on list 1441	1.00
2d and 4th A. D's., New York, on list 1411	1.10
6th A. D., Brooklyn, on list 1442.	1.65
H. Warlett, Schenectady, N. Y.	.50
D. Noonan, Schenectady, N. Y.	1.00
16th A. D., New York, list 1408	2.75
Total	$11.00
Previously acknowledged	$166.91
Grand total	$177.91

Henry Kuhn, Treasurer.

LYNN DISCUSSION MEETING.

The next regular discussion meeting of Section Lynn will be held in the new headquarters, 54 Central avenue, Friday evening, January 8, 1904. Subject: "Should the Socialist Labor Party Dominate the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance?"

All members should take notice and attend these meetings, and take part in the discussion.

Frank B. Jordan, Organizer.

L. A. 342, CLEVELAND, O.

Forest City Alliance, L. A. 342, S. T. and L. A., will hold its next regular meeting Wednesday, January 6, at 8 p. m. at the office of "Clevelander Volksfruend," 193 Champlain street, corner Seneca.

All members are urgently requested to be present as business of great importance is to be transacted. Members of Section Cleveland S. L. P. who are willing to join are cordially welcome.

Richard Koeppel, Rec. Secy.

Workingmen's Mutual Sick and Benevolent Society meets every first and third Wednesday at 301 East Eighty-second street

OFFICIAL

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—Henry Kuhn, Secretary, 2-6 New Reade street, New York.

SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY OF CANADA—National Secretary, C. A. Weitzel, 236½ Dundas street, London, Ont.

NEW YORK LABOR NEWS COMPANY, 2-6 New Reade street, New York City. (The Party's literary agency.)

Notice—For technical reasons no Party announcements can go in that are not in this office by Tuesdays, 10 p. m.

S. E. C. SECRETARIES, TAKE NOTICE

Secretaries of State Executive Committees of the S. L. P. and organizers of sections will please take notice that all communications for the Texas State Executive Committee should be addressed: Frank Leitner, Box 476, San Antonio, Texas. Telegrams should be sent to 917 (new number) Wyoming street.

NOTICE, STATE SECRETARIES!

To the comrades and sympathizers of Colorado: Owing to the fact that Comrade Carl Demms, the acting secretary, intends leaving Denver, you are requested to address all correspondence to the Colorado S. E. C., care of J. Michael, 2433 Lawrence street, Denver, Col.

Fraternally, Colorado S. E. C.

SECTION BOSTON, ATTENTION!

Every member of Section Boston should attend the regular meeting, to be held Thursday, January 7, 1904, 8 p. m. Begin the new year as it behooves a comrade, by being present promptly. Business of the utmost importance to every member will be transacted.

W. H. Carroll,
Secretary pro tem.

BOSTON PARTY MEETING.

Members of Section Boston are hereby notified that a meeting of party members throughout the State will be held at 1165 Tremont street, Saturday, January 2, 1904, and every member of the Section should be present.

W. H. Carroll, Sec. Pro Tem.

SECTION CLEVELAND, ATTENTION!

All members of Section Cleveland, O., are requested to attend the next regular meeting, to be held on Sunday, January 3, 1904, at 2:30 p. m. Among other important business to be transacted will be the semi-annual election of officers and committees.

The Organizer.

CLEVELAND S. L. P. CONVENTION.

The city convention of the S. L. P. of Cleveland is called for Sunday, January 10, 1904, to meet at the Section's Hall, 356 Ontario street (German-American Bank Building), top floor, and will be called to order at 3 p. m. (suntime) sharp.

The principal business of this convention is to nominate candidates for the various public offices to be voted for at the principal election in April.

It is the duty of each and every comrade to attend. Sympathizers and adherents of the S. L. P. are cordially invited.

CLEVELAND (OHIO) LECTURES.

Section Cleveland, S. L. P., has arranged for the following lectures:

Sunday, January 3—"Principles and Tactics of the S. L. P." Speaker, Paul Dinger.

These lectures take place at 3 p. m. at Section Hall, 356 Ontario street, top floor (German-American Bank Building). All workingmen and their friends and especially the readers of the Weekly People are cordially invited to attend. Admission free.

DETROIT, MICH., LECTURE.

Section Detroit, Mich., S. L. P., will hold an agitation meeting at Mannebach's Hall, 273 Gratiot avenue, Sunday, January 3, at 2:30 p. m. Subject, "The Unemployed, From Two Points of View." Speaker, James R. Murray.

G. E. B., S. T. & L. A.

A regular meeting of the G. E. B., S. T. & L. A., was held at headquarters, 2, 4 and 6 New Reade street, Saturday evening, December 26, 1903.

Meeting called to order at 8 o'clock. Comrade Gilhaus elected chairman.

All members present.

Minutes of previous meeting read and adopted.

Financial report for three weeks, ending December 23, read, received and placed on file. General Secretary reported on the National Convention, which was in every sense successful, progressive strides having been made, as shown by the reports of delegates, which were borne out by the report of the G. E. B.

The convention was enthusiastically in favor of the establishment of a general organizer's fund, and the sending out of a general organizer as soon as possible. The convention had adopted the recommendation of the G. E. B. for issuing a call to the general membership, asking for voluntary contributions to the general organizer's fund.

The Secretary reported that several amendments to the constitution were adopted and were in preparation for a general vote, which would be sent out as soon as possible. Also that the report of the G. E. B. had been published in The Daily and Weekly People, and 500 copies of the Weekly People were secured and sent out to the district and local Alliances. As to a general organizer, three names had been mentioned at the convention. Comrade Anthony McDonald had been communicated with and an answer received.

FOR OVER SIXTY YEARS
An Old and Well-Tried Remedy.
MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP has been used for over SIXTY YEARS by MILLIONS of MOTHERS for their CHILDREN WHILE TEETHING, WITH PERFECT SUCCESS. It SOOTHES the CHILD, SOFTENS the GUMS, ALLAYS all PAIN; CURES WIND COLIC, and is the best remedy for DIARRHOEA. Sold by Druggists in every part of the world. Be sure and ask for
MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP,
AND TAKE NO OTHER KIND.
Twenty-Five Cents a Bottle.

Experts recognize
"MOZLE"
The Best Turkish Cigarette Made

The Secretary also reported on the satisfaction expressed by the delegates at the financial condition of the Alliance at the close of the year 1903.

He also reported on other work done by the convention, including the re-election of the G. E. B. for the ensuing term.

Report received and concurred in.

Communications:

From L. A. 392, North Vassalboro, and L. A. 396, Skowhegan, Me., for supplies, stamps, etc.

From L. A. 308, with mileage tax.

From L. A. 166, Louisville, Ky., on the work being done for the raising of the subscription list of The Weekly People.

From L. A. 385, Woonsocket, R. I., on plans for raising the necessary amount for the general organizer's fund; also another letter from L. A. 385, contributing $5 to the organizer's fund.

From D. A. 19, Lynn, on the prospects of organization in Lynn, Lowell and Lawrence, Mass., and in Augusta, Me.

From Robert W. Stevens, Organizer of Section Baltimore, Md., asking for constitution and general information on the Alliance, which had been sent by the Secretary.

From "A Writer," in Philadelphia, Pa., asking for general information on the history of the Alliance. Secretary directed to answer.

From "A Sympathizer," in Philadelphia, asking for information, rules, etc., governing the organizing of a local Alliance in Philadelphia, Pa.

Secretary reported he had sent on all the desired information. Action: Secretary directed to correspond with the S. L. P. in reference to the matter.

From James P. Erskine, Organizer of the S. L. P., Section Salt Lake City, asking for general informaton on the S. T. & L. A.; also all information, records, facts, etc., on the fakirs and policies of the pure and simplers. Action: Secretary directed to furnish the desired information.

From a member of the S. L. P., Section Denver, Col., who is also a member of a pure and simple trade organization, asking for information on the Alliance.

Secretary directed to answer and send on full information.

From L. A. 342, Cleveland, O., for supplies.

From D. A. 21, Hartford, Conn., for supplies.

From George Anderson, Secretary of the California State Committee, expressing satisfaction on the action of the G. E. B. in the L. A. 345 matter, and promising that every effort would and could now be made to build up a strong S. L. P. and S. T. & L. A. movement in San Francisco.

From D. A. 49, N. Y., notifying the G. E. B. that an attack had been made on the Alliance by "Il Proletario," and asking that Comrade Baldelli be furnished certain information, he having volunteered to answer the attack. Action: Comrades Aiazzone and French appointed a committee to attend to the matter.

From D. A. 17, Providence, R. I., on the work of the general organizer.

From Comrade Anthony McDonald, who had been asked to take up the work of general organizer, setting forth the difficulties existing unfavorable to him acting as general organizer. Action: Secretary directed to write to him again, and urge upon him to act. The Secretary was also directed to write to other comrades mentioned.

From J. A. Stromquist, San Francisco, Cal., giving a report of local conditions and an application, with dues for membership-at-large. Action: Communication received and J. A. Stromquist accepted as member-at-large.

A general discussion was then had on the work, plans, etc., for the sending out of a general organizer and the necessary amount of funds required. It was shown that 5 cents per capita from 600 members weekly would more than cover the expense of keeping the organizer on the road, and after six months, if success was achieved, voluntary contributions could be stopped. It having been reported that several organizations had a fund for organizing purposes, and as the greatest obstacle to the starting of an organizer on the road was a fund large enough to guarantee continuous work, it was resolved that all such organizations be asked to contribute as large amount as possible at once, so that the work can be started without delay. It was further resolved that the amount of $10 be taken from the general fund and turned oved the organizer's fund, making a total at present of $65.

Resolved, That the Secretary be directed to issue a call for voluntary contributions to the organizer's fund, the same to be put in The Daily People once a week and Weekly People every week, with a list of all districts, locals or individuals as they subscribe to the fund.

After other routine work was transacted meeting adjourned.

John J. Kinneally, Gen. Sec.

If you receive a sample copy of this paper it is an invitation to subscribe. Subscription price: 50 cents per year; 25 cents for six months. Address Weekly People, 2-6 New Reade street, New York City.

THE DAILY PEOPLE HOME-STRETCH FUND.

UNDER THIS HEAD WILL BE PUBLISHED ALL DONATIONS MADE FOR THE LAST FINAL EFFORT TO CLEAR UP THE BALANCE OF THE DEBT ON THE DAILY PEOPLE PRINTING PLANT. THAT BALANCE, ON NOVEMBER 15, WAS $4,643, PLUS INTEREST, WATCH AND SEE HOW THE FIGURES OF THE 'HOME-STRETCH FUND" GET UP TO IT.

Previously acknowledged		$1,417.95
Section Stamford, Conn.		1.00
8th and 12th A. D., N. Y. City.		3.00
J. Eck, Hoboken, N. J.		2.00
H. Schreek, Hoboken, N. J.		4.50
O. Wergiet, Hoboken, N. J.		3.00
O. C. F., Hoboken, N. J.		2.00
34th A. D., New York City		6.00
W. Bopp, Brooklyn, N. Y.		1.00
C. H. Pierson, Summit, Va.		15.00
Section Richmond, Va.		10.00
Section Pueblo, Colo.		23.00
S. Berlin, San Francisco, Cal.		3.00
B. J. Murray, Providence, R. I.		25.00
P. Mangone, Fresno, Cal.		1.50
H. Peterson, Eureka, Cal.		3.00
V. Emanuelson, San Francisco, Cal.		5.00
K. Georgevitch, E. Pittsburg, Pa.		2.50
J. Boennan, San Jose, Cal.		1.50
E. E. Rouner, San Jose, Cal.		2.00
Mrs. W. Clark, N. Brighton, S. I.		2.00
Fred. Clark, New Brighton, S. I.		3.00
Jos. Ehret, Four Corners, S. I.		3.00
J. Driscoll, Clifton, S. I.		2.00
J. Zimmer, W. Brighton, S. I.		3.00
Boerman & Schmidt, Omaha		4.00
Geo. Luck, Brooklyn, N. Y.		3.00
23rd A. D., N. Y.		5.00
C. Schmidt, City		50
J. E. Deitrich, City		1.00
N. Zolinsky, City		1.00
J. K., Jr., City		3.00
E. Voska, City		1.00
D. Enger, Boston, Mass.		3.00
C. E. Patrick, City		5.00
W. P. Mamsworth, N. Andover, Mass.		5.00
J. Meighan, Coytesville, N. J.		1.00
L. Weber, Brooklyn, N. Y.		2.00
O. Sullivan, Revere, Mass.		5.00
T. Hellberg, Somerville, Mass.		5.00
E. Petterson, Somerville, Mass.		3.00
H. Hellberg, Somerville, Mass.		1.00
J. H. Swanberg, Somerville, Mass.		2.00
C. C. Crolley, Pleasantville, N. Y.		3.00
Collected by P. C. Christiansen, Cleveland O.		2.00
Ed. Hauser, Cleveland, O.		3.00
Collected by Bratburd & Polster, of Cleveland, O.		9.00
Collected by J. Reiman, of Cleveland, O., as follows:		
J. Reiman	$1.00	
A. Schmidt	2.00	
O. Klenger	10	
A. Shromhofer	3.00	
J. Schulman	15	
F. Kralik	50	
R. Kucohala	10	
J. Gable	3.00	
O. Reiman	15	
	$10.00	10.00
"Old Timer," Philadelphia, Pa.		25
Canadian N. E. C., per J. Witzel		10.00
H. Kunst, Indianapolis, Ind.		3.00
J. Newman, City		1.00
J. Scherer, City		1.00
G. Kessler, City		1.00
A. Gilhaus, City		3.00
T. Edgington, City		1.00
C. Ruroedec, City		1.00
Thos. Weilding, Butler, Pa.		1.50
A. Gleiforst, Brooklyn, N. Y.		3.00
Max Neuhaus, Brooklyn, N. Y.		1.00
Geo. H. Styles, City		1.50
K. Jepson, New Haven, Conn.		1.00
A. Alberg, New Haven, Conn.		25
M. Stodel, New Haven, Conn.		1.00
H. K., New Haven, Conn.		25
E. B. Mercadier, San Jose, Cal.		3.00
J. A. Stromquist, San Francisco.		5.00
M. Tunney, Tacoma, Wash.		5.00
J. F. Flynn, Tacoma, Wash.		25
B. Rasmussen, Brooklyn, N. Y.		3.00
E. A. Archer, Brooklyn, N. Y.		2.00
H. Dobzinsky, New York, N. Y.		2.00
D. Ashkansozy, New York, N. Y.		3.00
D. Simpson, New York, N. Y.		1.00
D. Baer, New York, N. Y.		1.00
N. Blank, New York, N. Y.		50
J. F. Walsh, Scotia, Cal.		5.00
P. Mygood, So. Norwalk, Conn.		2.00
C. Christensen, So. Norwalk		2.00
J. Redway, So. Norwalk, Conn.		25
Thos. Petterson, Eureka, Cal.		5.00
G. Anderson, Los Angeles, Cal.		3.00
J. Hurley, Los Angeles, Cal.		3.00
G. Edwards, Los Angeles, Cal.		3.00
A. Rhode, Los Angeles, Cal.		3.00
N. Neilson, Los Angeles, Cal.		3.00
D. Sanderson, Los Angeles, Cal.		5.00
F. Tuttle, Los Angeles, Cal.		5.00
C. B. Gyatt, Schenectady, N. Y.		3.00
A. Shange, Detroit, Mich.		2.00
W. Williams, Detroit, Mich.		1.00
G. Tuchelski, Detroit, Mich.		3.00
F. Uhlman, Detroit, Mich.		1.50
J. R. Murray, Detroit, Mich.		1.00
Section Union County, N. J.		15.00
C. Sperle, Somerville, N. J.		2.00
A. B. Lafreniere, Moosup, Conn.		1.00
A. Klein, Rockaway Beach, N. Y.		3.00
F. J. Tebbetts, Rollinsford, N. H.		1.00
E. Moonelis, New York, N. Y.		1.50
F. Lechner, Hartford, Conn.		2.00
J. Schaub, Hartford, Conn.		1.00
E. Eichlinger, Hartford, Conn.		1.00
F. Weiss, Hartford, Conn.		1.00
F. Schwarz, Hartford, Conn.		1.00
C. Burky, Hartford, Conn.		1.00
F. Liegl, Hartford, Conn.		1.00
J. Jenner, Hartford, Conn.		50
G. Herp, Hartford, Conn.		1.00
W. Thlusty, Hartford, Conn.		25
R. Merchanz, Hartford, Conn.		50
C. Fantone, Hartford, Conn.		1.00
A. Kumpitsch, Hartford, Conn.		2.00
J. Loganitsch, Hartford, Conn.		3.00
E. Koettgen, Paterson, N. J.		3.00
E. Rauer, Paterson, N. J.		1.00
W. Frueh, Paterson, N. J.		50
J. B. Roth, Paterson, N. J.		1.00
T. Heller, Paterson, N. J.		1.00
C. R. John, Paterson, N. J.		2.00
J. Tully, Paterson, N. J.		2.00
G. Graritsel, Paterson, N. J.		30
G. Helzmer, Paterson, N. J.		3.00
F. Cash, Paterson, N. J.		50
F. Hemminger, Hartford, Conn.		50
F. Traut, Hartford, Conn.		50
M. Neukirsch, Hartford, Conn.		1.00
P. Hoya, Hartford, Conn.		1.00
H. Hermansen, New York, N. Y.		2.00
N. Gajewski, New York, N. Y.		1.00
T. Powell, New York, N. Y.		1.00
S. Graham, New York, N. Y.		1.00
R. J. Downs, New York, N. Y.		10.00
G. Grimberger, Bridgeport, Conn.		1.00
A. Hedin, Bridgeport, Conn.		50
J. C. Custer, Bridgeport, Conn.		1.00
C. Carlson, Bridgeport, Conn.		1.00
T. Farmen, Bridgeport, Conn.		50
M. Feldman, Bridgeport, Conn.		50
A. Gusinoff, New York, N. Y.		1.00
D. Baum, New York, N. Y.		1.00
C. J. Smith, Salinville, O.		1.00
G. A. Monette, Brockton, Mass.		3.00
S. Bailey, Delta, Colo.		3.00
R. H. Lockhart, Delta, Colo.		3.00
O. Steinoff, Columbus, O.		2.00
O. Freer, Columbus, O.		3.00
S. B. Cowles, Sand Lake, Mich.		5.00
V. Martis, Jacksonville, Ill.		10.00
A. Wildermuth, Troy, N. Y.		1.00
H. Huttmann, Troy, N. Y.		3.00
T. Herrick, Providence, R. I.		80
H. Andrews, Brooklyn, N. Y.		3.00
L. Abelson, New York		2.00
A. Weinert, Newburgh, N. Y.		1.00
F. Gidley, Newburgh, N. Y.		1.00
W. Huchne, Kalamazoo, Mich.		1.00
A. Haggins, Kalamazoo, Mich.		1.00
A. Louwet, Kalamazoo, Mich.		1.00
C. Peterson, Kalamazoo, Mich.		50
E. Paul, Vancouver, B. C.		50
John Klein, Salt Lake, Utah		3.00
W. Bopp, Brooklyn, N. Y.		1.00

Amount paid to date........$1,898.05
Amount pledged to date..... 2,089.62

Through a typographical error in the list of December 26, $1 paid by F. Alrutz, Watervliet, N. Y., was omitted. The total, however, was correct.

CHRISTMAS FUND.

Section Allentown, Pa.	$6.00
O. Baumann, Holyoke, Mass.	5.00
J. A. Stromquist, San Francisco, Cal.	20.00
Total	$31.00

THANKSGIVING DAY CONCERT.

Previously acknowledged	$350.00
Received from M. Heyman, treasurer Entertainment Committee of Section New York	$159.38
Total	$509.38

SPECIAL FUND.

(As per circular letter of September 3, 1901.)

Previously acknowledged	$8,003.68
M. Poehland, Brooklyn, N. Y.	5.00
F. C. Surber, Auburn, N. Y.	.50
A. Francis, City, bet with S. Winauer	1.00
H. Harting, Newark, N. J.	1.00
F. Betzner, Newark, N. J.	1.00
Total	$8,012.19

BUFFALO LABOR LYCEUM.

A series of public lectures is now being held every Sunday at 3.15 p. m., under the auspices of the Labor Lyceum, in Florence Parlors, 527 Main, near Genesee street. They are delivered mostly by non-Socialists—noted reformers, lawyers, doctors, clergymen and politicians of the city—but the Lyceum is organized and entirely controlled by our Buffalo Section, and during the discussion the comrades criticise the ideas of non-Socialists from the standpoint of the revolutionary, working class Socialism. Every man and woman should attend and learn to criticise the various ideas and notions of the non-Socialists. Admission is free to all.

The next lecture on the programme is as follows:

January 3—By Prof. J. E. Stagg, on "Evils of Socialism."

SECTION ERIE'S OFFICERS.

At the regular meeting of Section Erie, S. L. P., the following officers were elected by a unanimous vote for the ensuing term:

Organizer, Herman Spittal; Secretary, John F. Gingenbach; Financial Secretary, L. M. Cunningham; Agent for the Socialistche Arbeiter Zeitung, Charles Schleicher; Agent for The Daily, Weekly and Monthly People, Jeremiah Devine. Date of meeting, December 20, 1903.

SECTION RICHMOND'S OFFICERS.

The following officers were elected by Section Richmond Borough to serve the first six months in 1904: James Wilton, organizer; John S. Hoffman, recording secretary; Elmer E. Snyder, financial secretary; Christian Larsen, treasurer; Fred Clark, literary agent; B. Clark, C. Whittan and J. Zimmer, auditors.

INFORMATION WANTED.

Any information as to the whereabouts of Matthew L. McDaniels, formerly of Lynn and Milford, Mass., would be gratefully received by

Frank B. Jordan,
Organizer Section Lynn,
465 Essex street, Lynn, Mass.

BUSINESS DEPARTMENT NOTES

For the week ending Saturday, December 26, 303 subscriptions to The Weekly People were received. This is quite an improvement over the previous week. Next week should beat it, so that the New Year may be well begun.

From June 8, 1903, to December 21, 1903, the circulation of The Weekly People increased 8,272. This increase was mainly due to the efforts of a comparatively few active comrades, who worked hard during the Summer and Fall months. Of late there has been a letting up, but with the holidays out of the way there is no reason why it should continue. Nor is there any reason why the work should be left to a comparative few. The increase during the past six months is encouraging, and a still larger increase can reasonably be expected during the next six months. With a presidential campaign near, circulation should be doubled and trebled.

At present the prepaid blanks and postal cards are not being used to any extent. Experience has proved that these are an effective means of stimulating the work and if sections will provide themselves with a good supply and sell them among their members, better results will be obtained. The blanks or cards in one's pocket act as continual reminders that subscriptions must be secured. It is not difficult to secure them either.

The best resolution to make on New Year's day, is that, from then on, you will secure one subscriber a week. Make up your mind that, in order to maintain the paper you are so proud of, because it voices the opinions of intelligent workingmen and is owned by them, you will do your share, and let that share be the getting of one subscription a week. If one reader a week is secured by each comrade, the circulation will, in time, get somewhere near a figure that a paper like ours deserves to reach.

Circular number four, on the Party press, has been mailed to all Sections and members-at-large. For the benefit of those who do not understand the meaning of the figures in the groups of "gainers," "standstills" and "losers," we will state that the first figure indicates the number of readers on October 16, and the last figure the number on December 17.

Comrade Skeggs, of Grand Junction, Colo., sends in a list of fifteen subscribers for The Weekly and ten for The Monthly People, and writes that his time is nearly all taken up. He seems to succeed in spite of the obstacles that are placed in his way. Others may have their time taken up or find adverse circumstances to contend with, but, like this comrade, should resolve to do something anyhow for the cause that is to get them out of this situation.

Comrade Mulberg, of San Pedro, Cal., one of the hustlers, is heard from again with fifteen subscribers for The Weekly People.

Charles Pierson secured fifty subscriptions for The Weekly, one for The Monthly People, and three for the Socialistische Arbiter Zietung in Houston and Waco, Texas. He also held street meetings and sold forty-one books. The chief of police who had Piedson arrested in Galveston may not like this, but Pierson will send more chills through him before he has finished his work in that state.

Other comrades sending in five or more subscribers are as follows:

For The Weekly:—Thirty-fifth Assembly District, New York, nineteen; Ben Hilbert, Jr., Hamilton, O., nine; William Veal, Collinsville, Ill., nine; Thirty-fourth Assembly District, New York, seven; C. Schmidt, New Haven, Conn., six; J. J. Dolan, Lynn, Mass., E. M. Dawes, Olathe, Colo., five; S. B. six; A. Hanson, Brooklyn, N. Y., six; Hutchinson, Grand Junction, Colo., five; O. Haselgrove, Baltimore, Md., five.

For The Monthly—Ben Hilbert, Jr., Hamilton, O., five; B. J. Murray, Providence, R. I., five; total 47.

LABOR NEWS DEPARTMENT.

"The Pilgrim's Shell; or, Fergan the Quarryman," a translation from Eugene Sue, vividly portraying the feudal system and the period of the Crusades, will be begun in next issue of The Weekly People. No one should fail to read this translation. It is a thrilling story, bringing out all the features of feudalism. The translation is from the original French and is made by Daniel De Leon, editor of the People.

"Behind the Scenes," the series of authentic documents proving that the officials of Colorado are subsidized by passes to look after the interests of the capitalists against the workers will be sent out with the first of the year. A Western sympathizer has taken a 5,000 edition of the pamphlet in advance. It will contain sixty-four pages, with photographs of the original letters in the hands of The Daily People management.

With the close of the holiday season, active work should be begun in disposing of party literature. The mission of the party is to educate the working class. Get our books, pamphlets, leaflets and papers in the hands of the workers with whom you are acquainted, and start them to reading. Their votes will follow as a matter of course.

Make all your appointments with : :
: : your friends to meet them at the
GRAND ANNUAL
Masque and Civic Ball
ARRANGED BY THE
EXCELSIOR LITERARY SOCIETY
TO BE HELD AT
GRAND CENTRAL PALACE
Lexington Avenue and 43d Street
Saturday Eve'g, Jan. 16, 1904
MUSIC BY L. FISCHER
TICKET, admit one, 25 CENTS
FIRST PRIZE $50.00 IN CASH SECOND PRIZE $25.00 IN CASH
$300.00 in prizes to be awarded to the most comical and original masks. Part of proceeds to go to New York County Committee

PIERSON'S ARREST

(Continued from Page 1.)

occurred in Buffalo, Homestead, Wardener and Pullman. At all of these places the organizations mentioned above did all in their power to assist the capitalist class in their fight against the men, and that they succeeded no intelligent man will question.

"I am not surprised by the treatment I have received at the hands of the police officials of this city. Why, the Chief himself loves me so well that he offered this proposition: 'Leave the city, Pierson, and I will pay your fare out of town.' I would like to know why they are so anxious to get rid of me. Is it because they are afraid I might say too much?

"Your article states that I ov[illegible] the bounds of free speech. [illegible] are about 500 workingmen who heard the spech who don't think so, and they are not fools, either. I am in the habit of telling the truth, and the truth will never hurt an honest man.

"I trust you will find space to publish this in your next issue, and oblige,

"Yours,
"Charles Pierson."

The Galveston Journal and the Advocate, two so-called "labor" papers ("graft" would be the proper name for them), also refused to publish the reply referred to, and when asked their reasons gave the same flimsy excuse as the Tribune.

I left Galveston Sunday morning, arriving in Houston a few hours later. While there the comrades showed me an article which appeared in the Houston Post, referring to my arrest in Galveston:

"ARREST OF PIERSON.

"Police Released Him on a Promise to Leave Galveston.

"(Houston Post Special.)

"Galveston, Tex., Dec. 18.—Charles Pierson, who was arrested here last Wednesday night for obstructing the street and discharged the next day on motion of the County Attorney, is regarded by the police as an orator of only small force. At the time of his arrest he was making a public address to a large crowd at the corner of Market and Twenty-first streets. His speech was a villification of President Roosevelt and against all constitutional authority. He became so vituperative in his abuse of the President that the policeman stationed there objected, when he turned his billingsgate loose on the police, and said they were nothing but the hirelings of capitalists to intimidate the laboring people. This caused his arrest, as stated.

"There was no plan of the President's summer residence at Oyster Bay found upon Pierson or other papers of an incriminating character. When arrested some Italian anarchists came to police headquarters and tendered a cash bond for his release, but it was refused.

"After his released Pierson promised the Chief of Police he would not attempt to make any more speeches. The labor unions and Socialists will have nothing to do with Pierson, who is the guest of a small band of Italian anarchists. He is about thirty years of age, medium height, spare built and has a small drooping mustache. He claims Louisville as his home, but when confronted with a citizen of that place could neither give the street nor number of his residence. Among his papers were credentials to the State Socialistic Labor Convention of Missouri. He is evidently an Americanized Italian. He will leave here to-morrow. Where he will go he will not say."

This paper is resorting to the same methods as the Galveston Tribune. It prints nothing but slanders, lies and misrepresentation. The words: "Arrest of Pierson.—Police Released Him on Promise to Leave Galveston," are untrue. As a matter of fact, I made no such promise at all, and the police officials know this to be true. The Texas State Committee sent me to Galveston to work four days, and I stayed there till my work was finished.

Comrade Morando Bernardoni, a member of Section Houston, and his brother, Victor, are the men who tried to get me out on bond and who entertained me during my stay in Galveston, and those are the men whom the slanderer and liar of a Houston Post has charged with being anarchists. As for the labor unions and Socialists not having anything to do with me, I suppose the writer means the labor fakirs and bogus Socialists; if so, he is right. We of the S. L. P. are in the habit of telling the [illegible] whenever we show up the cor[illegible] a force of [illegible]kedness of these grafters they resort to the same method as of old—they first throw dust into the eyes of the workers, and then say to the dupes, "Where I lead, you must follow."

In the afternoon on the day of my return to Houston I held a meeting on the Court House Square, speaking to one of the largest crowds ever gathered on a street corner of that city. The local comrades were in attendance, and between us we succeeded in selling out all the books we had with us (eighteen), distributed some 400 leaflets, and got one yearly and two half-year subscriptions to The Weekly People.

I left Houston Sunday night, with the best wishes of the comrades, and arrived here safely the following morning. I have had the pleasure of meeting mostly all the comrades of Section San Antonio, and they have made arrangements for mass meetings to be held Tuesday and Saturday nights, at which Comrades Leitner, Pollard and myself will speak.

Fraternally yours,
Charles Pierson.

DEPARTMENT STORES

(Continued from page 3.)

"junior clerks" get as small a wage as $6 or $7 per week, and are kept hustling by holding out a promise of some sort to them. They would point out the superintendent, who started on $3 per.

But while the clothing men and silk counter men, and, we might say, the window trimmers, receive higher pay than salesmen, they are expected to average a certain amount of sales for the week. If they run behind they might expect to find a slip in their envelope—"Your services are no longer required."

As to the window trimmer, he has no "cinch" of it. When a trimmer is expected to put in two or three windows a week during the hot summer days and nights, and cold atmosphere in winter, and is expected to have something new all the time, the demand on their versatility amounts to a very unpleasant task. It is especially galling to a window trimmer to spend a long, hot night in summer or a cold night or day in winter back of plate glass window in a strenuous struggle to produce something new and then have the manager order it taken out the next day because it hasn't "pulled."

The retail employes as they are found to-day are a most hopeless set of people. While they realize their hopelessness, they do not as yet understand which way to turn in order to better their condition.

The message of the Socialist Labor Party—"To the workers belongs all the produce"—will put a new life in them and bring them in the ranks of the working class, where they belong—in the ranks of the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance.

How many stalwarts, who are members of the S. L. P., will help to liver this message?

A. C